

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE SUGAR PROGRAM REFORM ACT

HON. DAN MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today myself, Representative GEORGE MILLER and more than 40 of our colleagues are introducing the Sugar Program Reform Act, a bill to phase out the sugar program by the end of 2002.

The sugar program is the "sugar daddy" of corporate welfare. Why? Because most of the benefits of this program go to huge corporate sugar producers, not the typical family farmer.

The sugar program's sole purpose is to prop up the price of sugar in the United States through a complex system of low-interest, nonrecourse loans and tight import restrictions. In fact, the price of sugar in the United States today is roughly four times as high as the price of sugar world wide.

As a result, the sugar program imposes a "sugar tax" on consumers, forcing them to pay more than \$1 billion in higher prices for food and sugar every year.

It devastates the environment, particularly the fragile Everglades in my home State of Florida. Higher prices for sugar have encouraged more and more sugar production in the Everglades Agricultural Area, leading to high levels of phosphorus-laden agricultural runoff flowing into the Everglades, which has damaged the ecosystem.

It has cost many Americans their jobs because it has restricted the supply of sugar that is available on the American market, resulting in the closure of a dozen sugar refineries across the country.

Finally, it hampers our ability to expand trade opportunities for America's farmers. It is hypocritical for the United States to protect domestic sugar production while urging other countries to open their agricultural markets. America loses leverage in trade negotiations as a result.

The sugar program is an archaic, unnecessary government handout to corporate sugar producers at the expense of consumers, workers, and the environment. It is truly deserving of reform.

The Sugar Program Reform Act will do what the 1996 farm bill failed to accomplish. While the Farm bill began to phase out supports for nearly every farm commodity, sugar escaped without any meaningful reform. The Sugar Program Reform Act will gradually phase out the loans provided to sugar producers, and terminate them at the end of 2002. It will require that any loans provided to sugar producers must be repaid.

Finally, it will require the government to ensure that there is an adequate supply of sugar on the United States market to help keep prices down.

This legislation is good for consumers, good for the environment, good for American workers, and good for the economy.

It is my hope that this legislation will be quickly considered by the House.

BETTY LIPPS IS THE ANGEL AMONG US

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Betty Lipps upon being named Citizen of the Year by the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce in recognition of her efforts to create "Angels on Assignment."

"Angels" is affiliated with the First Methodist Church in Mount Vernon, Illinois and began in 1991. Since then the "Angels," which is devoted to helping the needy and homeless in our country, have made a significant contribution to Mount Vernon and the surrounding Jefferson County area.

However, we cannot overlook the significance of Betty Lipps' efforts in creating this program in the first place. Had she not given of her personal time and vision, this program never would have begun and the "Angels" who have come to mean so much to the Mount Vernon area might never have been found.

It takes a lot of people and a lot of hard work to make a program like this flourish the way that "Angels" continues to do. Most importantly, it takes one courageous and determined soul like Betty Lipps to get the whole thing started.

To Betty and her husband of 50 years, Bob, I say thank you. Thank you for all you do to make our lives a little better. In your honor, I am wearing the "Angels" yellow ribbon on the House Floor today as a reminder that with a little bit of love and understanding there truly are angels among us. Thanks Betty.

EU BEEF BAN NOT BASED ON SCIENCE OR FACTS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would like to commend to his colleagues the following editorial from the May 11, 1999, Journal of Commerce. This editorial provides a thoughtful look at the issues surrounding the European Union's ban on hormone-treated beef. As the editorial emphasizes, since the ban is not based on science, the EU should give consumers the choice of purchasing American beef.

The United States and the European Union, twin champions of a rules-based global trading system, are heading toward another senseless trade showdown, this one over hormone-treated beef.

Like the banana dispute that preceded it—and on which the United States is now collecting trade penalties from EU exporters—the current fight over beef hormones stems from European intransigence.

In the banana case, the EU insisted that its political ties with former colonies took precedence over its duty to deal fairly with other nations' banana producers. In the current fight over hormone-treated beef, the EU insists that its trading obligations must take a back seat to exaggerated public fears over tampering with nature. This is an untenable stance for a major trading power; the EU should abandon it before doing any more damage to the global trading system.

The dispute has dragged on since the EU first banned hormone-treated beef in 1988. The issue picked up steam in 1995, when the World Trade Organization's agreement on Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary measures forbade the use of bogus health and safety regulations as de facto trade barriers.

Acting on a U.S. complaint, the WTO ultimately ruled that the EU ban of imports of hormone-treated beef is not based on sound science, and told the EU to make a change by May 13. To Washington, this meant the ban must be lifted by Thursday. But Brussels decided the ruling means that more risk assessment is needed, and it ordered up 17 scientific studies. It also said it would announce its intentions this week on how to respond to the WTO order.

Then, last week, EU Consumer Affairs Commissioner Emma Bonino dropped a bombshell into the hubbub of predictions and expectations. Citing the interim results of the first of the 17 studies, the chain-smoking Ms. Bonino said hormone-treated beef is so unsafe that it must continue to be banned from the EU market. "There can no longer be any question of lifting the ban," she said.

U.S. officials were flabbergasted, and rightly so. The announcement pre-empted the so-called scientific studies the EU had launched. It even jumped the gun on the final results of the study it purported to be based upon. And it raised a curious question: Why should the EU plow ahead with 17 expensive studies when it knows the outcome from the beginning?

Moreover, the announcement left major questions unanswered about the scientific basis of the EU's policy. The data behind the interim study results were not immediately available.

At the same time, there is substantial evidence the product is safe: Americans and Canadians have been eating hormone-treated beef for decades with no evidence of harm. Study after study has shown there is no difference in the effects of synthetic and natural hormones. And the United Nations agency responsible for food safety issues, Codex Alimentarius, has given a clean bill of health to the substances the EU cites as most dangerous.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

But none of that deterred Ms. Bonino, who says the danger is so great that even warning labels will not offer enough protection. Her declaration appeared to close off a promising compromise involving labeling; if a product is banned, the question of how to label it becomes academic.

U.S. trade negotiators, who initially opposed the idea of labeling beef as hormone-treated, now are warming to the idea. To be sure, it would add costs to U.S. and Canadian beef products. But faced with the option of no access at all to the EU market, producers are relenting. Given the chance, some might even make a virtue of necessity, marketing their products as "New, Improved, Hormone-Treated!"

It remains for the EU to back down from its Nanny stance and let consumers decide for themselves—just as they do with cigarettes, alcohol, and other products that pose much greater safety risks than beef growth hormones. No government can guarantee its citizens zero risk, and no public agency should presume to try. The best it can do is base its policies on sound science, and respect its citizens' rights to make an informed choice.

HONORING BERNARD CEDERBAUM

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, the Scarsdale Bowl Award, Scarsdale's highest civic honor, has been given annually since 1943 to honor "one who has given unselfishly of time, energy, and effort to serve the civic welfare of the community." Today, I would like to recognize a resident of my district who, through nearly three decades of tireless community service, perfectly embodies the spirit of this award.

Since moving to Scarsdale 28 years ago, Bernard Cederbaum has chaired or served on no fewer than 10 of Scarsdale's boards, councils, and committees. He is one of a very small group of residents to have served on both the board of education (1979–85) and the village board of trustees (1993–98). A natural leader and commonsense decisionmaker, Mr. Cederbaum has presided over the Town Club, Scarsdale Foundation, Environmental Advisory Council, and Greenacres Association. Those who have served with Mr. Cederbaum admire his intelligence, sense of fairness, reasonable approach to problems solving, and his quick sense of humor.

Mr. Cederbaum's commitment to a successful professional career has always been balanced with an unyielding dedication to voluntarism. Remarkably, Mr. Cederbaum dedicated countless hours to the town of Scarsdale while he worked as a partner at the law firm of Carter, Ledyard, & Milburn, presided over the New York State Bar Association's Corporation and Business Law Section, and participated in various committees of the New York City Association of the Bar.

The Scarsdale Bowl Award marks Mr. Cederbaum's fulfillment of his goal, to make a valuable contribution to the community in which he lives. I join with the residents of Scarsdale in applauding Mr. Cederbaum's commitment to our community and I am proud

to officially recognize this remarkable civic leader for his many years of service.

IN HONOR OF HIS HOLINESS BABA KASHMIRA JI MAHARAJ FOR HIS DEDICATION TO THE INDIAN COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize His Holiness Baba Kashmira Ji Maharaj for his commitment to equality and tolerance in India.

Called a visionary with a humane touch, Baba Ji has been instrumental in facilitating the distribution of medical services to the most needy in the remote villages of Punjab. By founding the S.G.L. Charitable Hospital at Jalandhar, Baba Ji has ensured that blood donation sites and necessary cancer treatment and detection equipment are available to the area's less fortunate.

Through a combination of meditation and medication, Baba Ji and the Charitable Hospital has assisted the sick, drug addicts and those suffering from depression. Now, plans have been established to create a nursing college, a dental college, and a medical college.

Another issue of great significance to Baba Ji is that of gender equality. He has been instrumental in highlighting the discrimination and degradation suffered by Indian women. He has spoken passionately about the oppression created by the dowry system and has repeatedly lent his services to families unable to meet the expenses of a wedding.

Baba Ji has also made essential and indispensable strides towards assisting Indian women in their quest for economic independence. He and his family have long been promoters of equal education rights for boys and girls. In 1910, Baba Ji's father and grandfather donated the necessary land and money to found an institution designed to address the educational needs of India's young women and girls. This institution has become one of the finest women's educational institutions in Asia.

From assisting earthquake and flood victims to his ground breaking medical work to his efforts towards equality in India, His Holiness Baba Ji has worked tirelessly on behalf of India's disadvantaged. For his tremendous work in these areas; for his insight and leadership; and for his continued dedication to the underprivileged, I would like to thank and congratulate His Holiness Baba Ji.

HONORING DR. HENRY KENDALL, SCIENTIST AND HUMANITARIAN

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a late friend and colleague, Dr. Henry Kendall.

Dr. Kendall was foremost a great scientist. He received the Nobel Prize in 1990, along with two colleagues, Dr. Richard Taylor and

Dr. Jerome Friedman, for experiments that confirmed the existence of quarks. As a physicist, Dr. Kendall constantly sought to break new ground, searching for new scientific phenomena and effects.

Dr. Kendall, however, was not content to remain solely in the laboratory. Concerned about governmental issues like nuclear proliferation and the safety of nuclear reactors, he helped found the Union of Concerned Scientists. This public interest group presses for control of technologies which may be harmful or dangerous. Dr. Kendall served as Chairman of the UCS from 1974 until his recent death. A strong advocate of public safety, Dr. Kendall devoted nearly every minute outside of his laboratory to campaigns to curb the nuclear arms race and alert the public to the most pressing environmental threats of our time.

Through his efforts, Dr. Kendall was a living testimony to how scientists and politicians can work together to further the public welfare. He testified numerous times before Congress about issues of technological safety, as he firmly believed that scientists could—and should—play an important role in public policy debates. His leadership of UCS was deeply rooted in the belief that, given accurate and credible information, the public and policy makers would ultimately make the right choices about the future. He had a rare gift for taking the long view and understanding how human activities and natural systems are intricately intertwined. He encouraged his co-workers to never shy away from the big problems facing the future of humanity and the natural world.

In his leisure time, Dr. Kendall was an avid outdoorsman, with a love of scuba diving and mountain climbing. His adventures took him to the Andes and the Himalayas, where he took pleasure in the beauty of our world.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Kendall was an exemplary man in both his work as a scientist and as a public advocate. It is a rare man who can excel at such widely differing fields, and work to bring them closer together. Years from now Dr. Kendall may simply be remembered as a Nobel Prize Winner. But to pay tribute to this one facet of his life would be to deny the completeness of the man, and all that he attempted to do to help the people of this nation.

I hope that my colleagues in the House will join me in extending this tribute to Dr. Kendall.

EXPOSING RACISM

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, since the beginning of March, I have introduced articles into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to document the continued effects racism and discrimination are having on our nation. Although the killings of James Byrd in Jasper, TX, and Isaiah Shoels in Littleton, CO have painfully thrust the acts of overt, violent racists into the national spotlight, the articles I have entered into the RECORD will show, if they do not already, that we can not sit by silently while this cancer grows unchecked.

The origins of our great nation were nascent with promises of freedom, justice, and equality

under the law. However, for more than 200 years, the enslavement of Africans and then Jim Crow laws obfuscated our task—our obligation—to make America “one nation under God.” We were blinded to the veracity of inspirational phrases like, “with freedom and justice for all,” “all men are created equal,” and “E pluribus Unum”—from the many one.

However, during the civil rights movement, many brave Americans of all races stepped forward to denounce the laws and systemic bigotry that perpetuated an American version of apartheid. They walked, marched, and “sat-in” in an attempt to reclaim the legacy promised to all of us by our founding fathers. One such person was Linda Brown. In 1951, this little girl was in the third grade. Although there was an elementary school seven blocks from her house, young Linda was forced to walk over a mile to another elementary school. The reason to make a little girl walk through a railroad switch yard on her way to school? She was black and the school located seven blocks from her house was for white students only.

Many years ago, George Santayana wrote, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” Because I revere the warning contained in these prescient words, today I am introducing a resolution to recognize the 45th anniversary of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Brown versus Board of Education*. In 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court, in a unanimous decision, boldly struck down segregation laws in public schools and upheld the equal protection laws guaranteed to all Americans by the 14th amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

However, in the aftermath of that historic decision, many of the freedoms won by the *Brown* decision have been rolled back or are currently under assault. White flight and a conspicuous attack on our public schools have facilitated the de facto resegregation of our public schools. All of the lessons we should have learned from this important event in our shared American history, seem to be once again eluding us.

I respectfully submit this legislation to remind us all that we have a moral obligation to purge the divisive evil of racism out of the fabric of harmony, justice, and equality that is our shared American legacy. We have a responsibility to not only remember the past, but to learn from it.

If in fact, “those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it,” then Mr. Speaker, I pray that my efforts to document racism in America and to remind our nation of the significance of the *Brown* versus the Board of Education, wake us from our collective slumber to experience the beauty of our shared destiny.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. NAT GLASS,
HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR AND
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mrs. Meek of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Nat Glass, a survivor of the Holocaust in Poland and, today, a volunteer lecturer at the Holocaust Memorial in

Miami Beach, Florida. Mr. Glass was a student in Poland when the Nazis invaded his country in the pre-dawn of September 1, 1939, the event which ushered in World War II.

In his lectures today at the Holocaust Memorial, Mr. Glass relates how the Nazis created Jewish ghettos, in which the Jewish people were forced into labor for their invaders. In September, 1944, Mr. Glass and his family were packed into cattle cars and shipped to Auschwitz. There, he saw his mother and two sisters for the last time. Mr. Glass later learned that they died of starvation at the Stutthof concentration camp.

Mr. Glass was sold as a slave and sent to Germany, where he worked in a factory. In early May 1945, the laborers were told to dig their own graves. As they were about to be executed, the American Army liberated the factory.

Today, Mr. Nat Glass sees it as his mission to volunteer and to share his story of tragedy, because he has seen what hate can do.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to pay tribute to Mr. Nat Glass, a man who has overcome evil with good.

A TRIBUTE TO CONNIE
LOUDERMILK AND MEMBERS OF
THE GOLDEN, ILLINOIS HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Connie Loudermilk and the Golden, Illinois Historical Society for their efforts to preserve Prairie Mills in Golden.

Prairie Mills was built by Henry R. Emminga in 1872. It operated for 60 years and served as a key component of Golden and the surrounding area. Today, it serves perhaps an even more important role as a reminder of the way things used to be.

Connie Loudermilk, Randy Kurfman and other members of the Golden Historical Society are working very hard to raise funds and awareness to help preserve the mill and enhance its prospects for the future.

I want to commend Connie and Randy as well as Jim Simpson, Dave Weese, Bob Teel, Ben Booth and all the other volunteers involved in this worthwhile effort. I also want to thank the Illinois Country Living magazine for featuring Prairie Mills and the Society’s efforts in its January 1999 edition.

The efforts they are making will last for generations to come.

THE VIEW FROM ROMANIA

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues an excellent article which appeared in the *Los Angeles Times* on May 10, 1999, calling for NATO to halt the bombing of Yugoslavia and to declare a cease-fire, lest NATO become its own nemesis.

[From the *Los Angeles Times*, May 10, 1999]

THE VIEW FROM ROMANIA

BOMBING BY NATO, AN ALLIANCE IN WHICH WE HAVE SO MUCH FAITH, ENSURES WRONG RESULTS WHILE ABANDONING FUNDAMENTAL PRECEPTS

(By Adrian Nastase)

Romanians have a message for NATO—one that is decidedly pro-NATO, but also may be unpleasant. It is a message of “tough love.”

Halt the bombing of Yugoslavia and declare a cease-fire. Negotiations must be relaunched without any prior conditions on either side, taking into account the tragic evolution of events that has already occurred on the ground.

As an applicant for NATO membership and member of the Partnership for Peace, Romania has opened its air space to alliance aircraft. We are fully supportive of an embargo that pressures Belgrade to cease its actions in Kosovo. We are adamant that Kosovar Albanians should be allowed to return to their homes with their rights guaranteed. War crimes should be investigated and prosecuted.

But, most Romanians now think that the use of force, including the long-term continuation of airstrikes or any forcible ground intervention, will lose everything NATO seeks.

Kosovo will be destroyed; Slobodan Milosevic will remain in power as a wartime leader reinforced by a siege mentality; Macedonia and Albania will be destabilized by refugees and foreign military presence, and anti-Americanism will rise to fever proportions in Greece, Italy and elsewhere.

We want NATO to win politically and morally. We want peace to be ensured by a great alliance and its strongest members. We want dictators to be removed by popular action, and minority rights preserved by diplomacy, incentives and law.

Romanians dream about becoming part of NATO. Our dream has been to enter an alliance that occupies a moral high ground, not one that, by mistake, kills refugees and civilians. We believe that the alliance’s principles have mattered. For years during the communist period, Romania rejected intervention in sovereign states and distanced itself from the Soviet-dominated Warsaw Pact. Now, an alliance in which we have put so much faith has erred by acting in a manner that ensures all the wrong consequences while abandoning fundamental precepts.

It seems as if NATO now believes that, after destroying Serbian infrastructure, and waiting until all Albanians are expelled from Kosovo, it can recreate order and peace from nothing. Winning militarily from 5,000 meters is being confused tragically with political success.

Romanians have learned important lessons from our own contributions to peacekeeping missions in Angola, Albania and Bosnia. Among these are that preventing conflict is far easier than stopping it and that recreating a status quo is a Gordian knot. We fear, however, that these lessons are being ignored. NATO’s potential to keep the peace and to prevent ethnic cleansing before resorting to war, was belated and half-hearted. We hope for more, and have watched with increasing anxiety as air power is unleashed; destroying without solving anything.

Regional capacities to reduce the potential for or intensity of conflict have been ignored. Romania’s participation in two costly U.N. embargoes against Iraq and Yugoslavia, plus peacekeeping missions in Angola, Somalia, Albania and Bosnia exhibit Romania’s awareness of its role and willingness to sacrifice for principles in which it believes.

Those qualities, however, elicited little interest in Brussels or Washington, where resorting to force seemed preordained.

NATO appears to have changed into an organization prone to use bombs in lieu of diplomats. And, instead of using expansion to address security needs in Europe's most insecure regions—the Balkans and the Baltics, for example—NATO told such countries to wait for security guarantees until war was at our doorstep.

We think that many opportunities for mediating roles have been lost. As the only country bordering on the former Yugoslavia without antagonistic relations with Belgrade, Romanian NATO membership could have increased the probability of successful negotiations with the Serbs.

The denouement of Europe's most recent Balkan war has yet to be scripted. From the neighborhood, however, we can foresee a very discomfiting future: a broken but unrepentant Serbian nationalism, a heavily armed Albanian nation seeking retribution, an embittered Russia harboring imperial memories now convinced of NATO's antipathy, and ample instability.

To say we don't look forward to such a 21st-century environment is far too mild. We are deeply troubled. We thought we were at the gates of an alliance that would preserve peace in our corner of Europe. And, we never, never imagined that negotiations and peacekeeping efforts would be jettisoned to inaugurate a war of such duration and intensity.

But, a way out exists. NATO can declare that it has inflicted sufficient punishment, and is prepared to contribute, but not necessarily command, a peacekeeping force in part of Kosovo to which Albanian refugees are returned and from which Serb army and police units are evacuated. Establishing the size and location of the two zones, and the nature of the international force must be negotiated, but such diplomacy, not cruise missiles, are the path away from disaster.

Romanians are prepared to fulfill useful roles along such a path. But, we must begin to travel down it soon lest NATO becomes its own nemesis.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF OCEAN TOWNSHIP

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to direct the attention of my colleagues to the celebration of Ocean Township's sesquicentennial and the re-enactment of the historic first town meeting.

Created by enabling legislation on February 21, 1849, Ocean Township is a community located in central New Jersey between the mouth of the Shrewsbury South River and the river to Eatontown Landing Creek. The precise boundaries, however, were originally described in relation to farms and properties that no longer exist.

In honor of Ocean Township's founding and its first town meeting on March 13, 1849, the Council sponsored festivities reminiscent of that day a century and a half ago. The mayor and council members dressed up in period costumes while elementary and intermediate students sang songs and recited accounts of life in the mid-nineteenth century.

Mr. Speaker, Ocean Township is just one of the historical treasures in central New Jersey that continues to thrive to this day. I know that the people of the community, by observing and respecting their history, will be well-

equipped to face the challenges of a brand new century.

I hope that my colleagues will join me and other central New Jerseyans in extending our congratulations to the people of Ocean Township and wishing them another successful one hundred fifty years.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN CHIANG

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to John Chiang, a dear friend who this year is the recipient of the Legislator of the Year Award from the San Fernando Valley Democratic Party. While I am naturally delighted that John has been selected to receive this prestigious award, I can't say I'm surprised. John is one of the most intelligent, thoughtful and generous people I have ever had the pleasure to know. His wide circle of friends and admirers can attest to his easygoing charm and strong feelings of empathy.

The explanation for John's success in politics is simple; he works very hard, and he is true to himself. People who meet John invariably want to become part of his team.

John's award from the San Fernando Valley Democratic Party is even more impressive when you consider that he was first elected to office only six months ago. In 1997, he was named Acting Member of the California State Board of Equalization. He replaced Brad Sherman, who was elected to Congress.

John immersed himself in the difficult and politically unpopular job of administering tax policy in California. It says a lot about John that his popularity has actually increased as he has served in this particular post. In 1998, John ran for election to a four-year term on the Board. He won handily in a difficult primary, and then followed that with a smashing victory in the general election. John is now widely regarded as someone with a very bright future in politics.

John is a dedicated public servant, who has become involved with many distinguished organizations and causes. He is a Board Member of Los Angeles Nonprofit Planning Council, an Advisory Council Member of Big Sisters of Los Angeles, and a volunteer attorney for the Los Angeles County Bar Association Hospice AIDS Project. John's many awards for community service include the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance Community Service Award and the State Bar of California Board of Governors Pro Bono Service Award.

In the past few months, I have been tremendously impressed by the strength of John, his brothers Robert and Roger, and his mother, Judy, in coping with the loss of their beloved sister and daughter, Joyce. Joyce served as an intern in my San Fernando Valley office, and was a member of my Washington staff from 1992–95. I know how much John and the rest of the Chiang family miss Joyce, who was a very special young woman.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting John Chiang, whose selflessness and compassion inspire us all. I am proud to be his friend.

TRIBUTE TO SAM DAVIS

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on May 20, 1999, a Tribute Dinner will honor Sam Davis for his nearly 40 years as Executive Director of the Michigan Association for Children with Emotional Disorders.

As the main force for the founding and continuing efforts of the Association, Sam Davis became an indispensable advocate in Michigan for mental health and for special education programs for children with emotional problems. From the very beginning, he has fostered grass roots activities on behalf of children with special needs. In the early years, it was a difficult struggle as society was still wrestling with denial rather than acknowledgement and treatment of mental problems, especially of our children.

With the help of Sam Davis' leadership and determination, there followed a period of progress. There was a spurt of action, both in the private and public sectors in Michigan. He served on many Boards and Committees, including the Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Services Board Advisory Committee on Children and Youth; Michigan Department of Mental Health Advisory Council on Mental Illness; and Chairperson of the Children's Advisory Council of the Oakland County Community Mental Health Board. He was also appointed to the Child Mental Health Study Group of the Michigan Department of Mental Health, the Child Care Study Committee, and the Special Education Advisory Committee of the Michigan Department of Education.

In recent years the provision of mental health services for our society has come under increased stress and uncertainty. So Michigan will miss even more intensely the strong hand and agile mind of Sam Davis at the helm of the Michigan Association. He leaves with a long record of accomplishment, and these successes stand as a challenge to Michigan to strive more fully where it has failed. Sam Davis has devoted his life to the children of Michigan and as he leaves for other pursuits, his career is a challenge to all who care to continue to do better by our children with mental health and special needs.

I am pleased to join with all of those who will join in honoring Sam Davis at the Tribute Dinner on May 20, 1999.

A UNIQUE PIECE OF AMERICANA IS PRESERVED THANKS TO JUDY DeMOISY AND THE BROOKS CATSUP BOTTLE PRESERVATION GROUP

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to alert my colleagues to perhaps one of the most monumental events to take place this year.

On June 13, 1999, my hometown of Collinsville, Illinois will have a happy 50th birthday party for the Brooks Catsup Bottle that sits

170 feet above the community. The bottle was originally used as a water tower built by the G.S. Suppiger Bottling Company which produced the Brooks Old Original Catsup. Built in 1949, the bottle holds up to 100,000 gallons of water.

After the bottling plant shut down, the bottle itself fell into disrepair. In 1993 a group of local preservationists began to raise funds with the purpose of refurbishing and preserving the bottle for its 50th anniversary as well as for future generations. More than 6,000 tee-shirts were sold to help raise money and thousands of volunteer hours were devoted to preserving an essential element of my community's heritage.

Now there are hopes that we can get the bottle placed on the National Register of Historic Places and that effort has my wholehearted support.

I commend the Catsup Bottle Preservation Group and Judy DeMoisy who manages Downtown Collinsville for their work in preserving a unique piece of Americana.

LET THEM EAT BEEF

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues an excellent editorial calling for an end to the European Union's irrational and improper beef ban which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald, on May 12, 1999.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, May 12, 1999]

LET THEM EAT BEEF

A showdown between the United States and the European Union over beef exports ought to be unnecessary. The United States has science and the World Trade Organization at its side. European controls on U.S. beef exports have little relationship with provable concerns.

For more than a decade, the European Union has banned the import of beef from animals that have been fed growth hormones. Such hormones are used in raising more than 90 percent of beef cattle in the United States. Their use is an effective way to make cattle grow faster and bigger.

The Food and Drug Administration has determined the substances safe. The World Trade Organization rule in 1997 that the European ban violated international trading agreements. The WTO said the ban was neither supported by science nor justified by any risk assessment. The WTO last year ordered the EU to abandon its policy by May 13, tomorrow.

A trade war looms unless the EU complies. U.S. officials have threatened to retaliate against European products if the ban, which keeps most American beef out of EU countries, is not lifted. Officials said they would impose 100 percent tariffs on more than \$900 million worth of European products, possibly including items such as mineral water, Belgian chocolates and Roquefort cheese. That could effectively price those products out of the U.S. market.

Trade policy-makers at the European Union have kept U.S. officials going around in circles for a decade. The coalition has made superficial changes designed to give the appearance of compliance with the WTO order. That has staved off trade sanctions in

the past. But a free market in U.S. beef has not materialized.

The U.S. cattle industry estimated that growers have lost export sales of about \$500 million annually since 1989, when America began exporting only hormone-free beef to Europe.

American cattle producers have suggested that the real problem is protectionism. European countries want to insulate their beef producers from U.S. competition. There is also the possibility of scientific ignorance—observers have noted a general European hysteria over mad cow disease and genetically engineered foods such as Monsanto soybeans. Too often, fear has been allowed to trump science.

American farmers and ranchers are especially efficient. They have invested in research and technology to keep themselves competitive. If the beef trade barrier is allowed to stand, despite science and the WTO, this nation's ability to sell its agricultural products overseas will become more vulnerable to illegal trade barriers, and its export position could be severely damaged.

The European Union's beef ban is irrational and improper. It risks a trade war that would harm people on both sides of the Atlantic. European consumers should have the chance to decide for themselves the worth and safety of the beef grown by America's farmers and ranchers. They will never get that chance unless their leaders bow to the WTO and lift the beef ban.

1998 SIXTH DISTRICT ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, please permit me to share with my colleagues the tremendous work of some diligent young men and women in my district.

Each year, my office—in cooperation with junior and senior high schools in Northern Illinois—sponsors an essay writing contest. The contest's board, chaired by my good friend Vivian Turner, a former principal of Blackhawk Junior High School in Bensenville, Illinois, chooses a topic and judges the entries. Winners of the contest share in more than \$1,000 in scholarship funds.

Today, I have the honor of naming for the RECORD the winners of the 1998 contest.

Last year, Peter Meyer led Mary, Seat of Wisdom School in Park Ridge, Illinois, to a junior high division sweep by winning with an essay titled, "Ban Smoking in Restaurants," a text of which I include in the RECORD. Placing second last year in the junior high division was James Troken, followed in third place by Eva Schiave, both of whom also attended Mary, Seat of Wisdom School.

In the Senior High School Division, the first place award went to Julie Kostuj of Driscoll Catholic High School in Addison for her essay, "Freedom of the Press," a text of which I include in the RECORD. Shahzan Akber of Blenbard North High School in Glen Ellyn took the second place prize, and Nicole Beck of St. Francis High School in Wheaton placed third.

BAN SMOKING IN RESTAURANTS

(By Peter Meyer)

Did you know that most of your taste comes from your sense of smell? If you are in

a restaurant where people are smoking, how can you taste your food? Although you can request a nonsmoking section for your seating, the harmful smoke from the smoking section is still present in the air you are breathing. That air can cause cancer. A law banning smoking in all restaurants in Illinois will make your meal more pleasant while keeping you healthy.

Laws are very important. Laws protect us from harm, help us when in need, and preserve our rights and freedoms as United States citizens. When citizens feel the need for additional protection, laws are passed. Currently there is no law protecting people completely from secondhand smoke in restaurants, yet, secondhand smoke is the third leading cause of preventable death in this country, killing 53,000 nonsmokers in the U.S. each year.

We need a law banning smoking completely in all restaurants in Illinois. The current Illinois law bans smoking in public places except in designated smoking areas. It says a smoking area should be designed to minimize the intrusion of smoke into areas where smoking is not permitted. Nonsmoking sections do not eliminate nonsmokers' exposure to secondhand smoke, the smoke does not remain in the smoking section. Secondhand smoke has been proven to be a serious health risk. Even the Illinois General Assembly finds that tobacco smoke is annoying, harmful, and dangerous to human beings and a hazard to public health.

Secondhand smoke is a mixture of the smoke given off by a cigarette, pipe, or cigar, and the smoke exhaled from the lungs of smokers. The Environmental Protection Agency has classified secondhand smoke a Group A Carcinogen—a substance known to cause cancer in humans. There is no safe level of exposure for Group A toxins. Nicotine is not the only toxin nonsmokers are exposed to in secondhand smoke. Smoke from the burning end of a cigarette contains over 4,000 chemicals and forty carcinogens including: formaldehyde, cyanide, arsenic, carbon monoxide, methane, and benzene.

Smoke-filled rooms can have up to six times the air pollution as a busy highway. Second-hand smoke does not quickly clear from a room. It takes about two weeks for nicotine to clear from the air in a room where smoking has occurred. In addition to being a carcinogen, second-hand smoke causes irritation of the eye, nose, and throat. Passive smoking can also irritate the lungs leading to coughing, excess phlegm, chest discomfort, and reduced lung function especially in children. Secondhand smoke may effect the cardiovascular system, and some studies have linked exposure to secondhand smoke with the onset of chest pain.

When smoking is banned in restaurants, customers will not be exposed to secondhand smoke. They will be able to eat without suffering from the irritation of smoke, increasing their ability to enjoy their meal. Developing children will have healthier lungs. Restaurants will no longer have to pay to operate expensive ventilation systems and will be able to seat more people by not having to maintain separate sections. People who find smoke offensive will not be doomed to eat in the fast-food restaurants that have banned smoking. Smoke-free restaurants may discourage people from starting or continuing to smoke.

Smoking is already banned in most public buildings. Current laws allowing a smoking section in restaurants do not prevent exposure to secondhand smoke. People are involuntarily exposed to smoke which is a carcinogen and a health hazard. Banning smoking in restaurants will continue the effort to improve public health and reduce health costs. Food in restaurants will taste better and eating will be more enjoyable.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

(By Julie Kostri)

Although, according to the United States Constitution, everyone in America has the right of free speech, I believe that in some ways the press abuses its right to free speech. The writers of the Constitution intended everyone to have a right to voice their opinions without being prosecuted by the law. Today, however, the press does more than just profess their views. Publicists often tell lies and proclaim them as facts. As a strong influence in the lives of every American, the media can easily sway public sentiment and ruin the reputation of celebrities.

The media has a right to report facts. It is also acceptable to broadcast opinions as long as it is made clear that what is printed or said is one's own views and not a proven fact. The press has the right to address social grievances, but publicists must be informed on the issues. It would cause much confusion in the public if a distinction was not made between truths and personal views. The population would never know what to believe, and there would be chaos. The media has crossed the line when it uses misleading propaganda or defames a celebrity. In one's own home, around close family and friends, it is acceptable to state whatever one wants. However, there is a difference between sharing your views with a group of friends and printing your opinions in a newspaper or broadcasting them on national television. Publicists should use prudence and common sense when determining what is acceptable to be read or hear by millions. The media often does not realize its great power and the trust that Americans have in the media. It is detrimental to use this power without discretion. Celebrities especially can have an injured reputation and be discriminated against by something the media declared about them.

It is very difficult for the government to prevent abuses by the press without violating a constitutional right. The government has passed laws outlawing libel, but libel is very hard to prove in court. The press can find a loophole in just about everything that they print. The First Amendment basically gives the media the right to say anything and assemble whenever it wants.

The press morally has an obligation to print the truth, but the media more often than not cares more about sales than ethics. As long as the American population continues to read these stories in the newspaper or listen to them on the news, the problem will not stop. The general public has the liberty to buy what it wants. People should not purchase newspapers and magazines in which there are articles in poor taste. The media tailors to the public. The population should not be controlled by the media. The people of this nation have a right to call for higher standards of workmanship.

Individuals have a right to privacy that the media should not invade. According to the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, every citizen has the "right to life, liberty, and property." People's individual rights are often violated by the media. Journalists are many times guilty of harassment. They cannot take "no" for an answer. Some of the most tenacious journalists will go to great lengths to get a story. Reporters will trespass on private property and harass people until they get what they want.

I do not believe that celebrities are less entitled to privacy than the general public. Every American is equal in the eyes of the law. Celebrities do not have any less rights than the common resident. However, celebrities do usually tolerate the media better than the commoner because celebrities have an image to worry about. Celebrities know

that if they are rude to the press, the media could easily destroy them.

Although the press is given freedom of speech in the Constitution, I believe that the rights of the individual precede the rights of the press. When personal rights are being violated by the media, then the government has to intervene. The American population should demand that more laws be passed to protect them from the injustices of the media. The press can be regulated by the government without violating a Constitutional right. Just as written in the Second Amendment to the Constitution, every individual has a right to bear arms. However, for the protection of the majority of people, the government has limited the kinds of arms that civilians can own, and it is illegal to carry a concealed weapon. With limits, United States citizens are still allowed to bear arms. There is no reason why the government cannot regulate the freedom of speech of the press without taking their Constitutional liberties away.

CRISIS IN KOSOVO (ITEM NO. 4)
REMARKS BY TONY ELGINDY DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH & TRADING, PACIFIC EQUITY INVESTIGATIONS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, on April 29, 1999, I joined with Representative CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY and Representative MICHAEL E. CAPUANO to host the second in a series of Congressional Teach-In sessions on the Crisis in Kosovo. If a peaceful resolution to this conflict is to be found in the coming weeks, it is essential that we cultivate a consciousness of peace and actively search for creative solutions. We must construct a foundation for peace through negotiation, mediation, and diplomacy.

Part of the dynamic of peace is a willingness to engage in meaningful dialogue, to listen to one another openly and to share our views in a constructive manner. I hope that these Teach-In sessions will contribute to this process by providing a forum for Members of Congress and the public to explore alternatives to the bombing and options for a peaceful resolution. We will hear from a variety of speakers on different sides of the Kosovo situation. I will be introducing into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD transcripts of their remarks and essays that shed light on the many dimensions of the crisis.

This presentation is by Tony Elgindy, Director of Research & Trading for Pacific Equity Investigations. Mr. Elgindy is not a professional aid worker. He is a dedicated and committed individual who has adopted a personal role in helping his fellow human beings who have been brutalized by this ongoing tragedy. Mr. Elgindy shares his observations and experiences with us, speaking in graphic and moving detail. He was instrumental in bringing 30 refugees out of the Kosovo area to the United States, the first group of refugees to arrive in our country. Among these displaced families were Sefkije Ferataj and her 2 year old daughter, Besarta. Both of them appeared at this second Congressional Teach-In. Following his presentation in a May 1, 1999, article from

the Chicago Tribune that describes what the Ferataj family encountered when they reached Chicago. These documents give a very real, human face to the Crisis in Kosovo.

PRESENTATION BY TONY ELGINDY TO CONGRESSIONAL TEACH-IN ON KOSOVO

I'd like to first apologize, having just gotten here in the States from Macedonia. I don't have prior prepared remarks. I would like to thank everyone for having this opportunity to share what I've seen, and to assist me in trying to define some sort of forward momentum here.

Upon my arrival in Skopje, Macedonia which is approximately 23 km. south of the border, I saw my first camps. We went to the border, saw Serb activity on the border, and talked to refugees.

It's difficult to know from my standpoint exactly where to start. I don't know if it's with the random torture, the beatings, the sadistic mutilation of women, their unsafe enslavement, the taking of eyes of women and children, the cutting off of ears, the burning alive of males, castration of young boys. I just don't know where to start. What's happening in Kosovo is a tragedy beyond anything you could ever watch on TV. There is no way for any of us to sit here today and understand what they are feeling, what they are seeing, or what they've endured. You cannot smell it here, you cannot hear it here. The Serbs are systematically burning evidence, destroying all traces of the atrocities, pulverizing ashes. There were flashes in the sky at night when we were trying to sleep from the NATO bombing. All of the relief workers that I met would be there during the day and leave there in the evening, leaving the camps to the Macedonian police. The crying and the grief intensified at night. And I don't know how anyone could tolerate it.

This is a Holocaust, undoubtedly. Holocaust Number Two. I'm not a politician; I'm a trader. I work on Wall Street, been doing it for 11 years. I deal with numbers. I've been fortunate enough to be able to help various relief organizations in the United States with money donations, connections, support, one of which is the Mother Teresa Foundation in Skopje. So I can't sit here and tell you what the results will be and what it will be like if we didn't bomb, or we stopped military action or we sent in ground troops or we never sent in ground troops. All I can testify is what I saw in my two weeks at the border of Kosovo.

Right now in America our markets are at an all-time high. We are swimming in money. The Internet, Dow Jones, and NASDAQ markets capture our focus, our imagination. And—I say this without trying to offend anyone—our greed has blinded us to what's happening elsewhere. And it became apparent to me that somewhere down the line their lives don't meet our standards for valuable commodities to protect. We are remote control-happy. We click through our channels one after another, and we all say yes, that's terrible and we go on to the next channel and we find a sitcom that we can sit down and watch for the rest of the evening. These people don't have that luxury. They cannot turn it off. They cannot switch channels.

Of the 30 refugees [he is helping to evacuate to the U.S.], six of them are family members—two close family members and four distant family members—of another U.S. citizen who accompanied me on the trip to find her family. The other 24 have no connections here in the U.S. It's a very difficult ordeal to obtain their visas, since the U.S. Embassy when we arrived wasn't allowing any refugees to come. And I used whatever

resources I had in the financial markets to contact the people—whatever little bit of influence I had—to have them appeal to the Embassy. Well, we ended up using up all the fax paper and jammed the phone lines and we prevailed in getting the very first 30 refugees' visas approved. And a few of them are with us today.

I don't know if America could have learned anything in Bosnia why it wasn't applied here. We knew what the man was capable of doing; we knew how brutal he was; we didn't take into account the retribution he would show the people of Kosovo. I don't know if we should have evacuated the country or been better prepared before we took aggressive steps.

For us to allow him to stay in power, for us to idly sit by and let him continue, is also another matter for debate up here on Capitol Hill, which is something that I have little control over. However, I don't know that we can idly sit by and let a madman run around doing the things that I saw. Out of the 24 refugees that will be coming to the States in the next several days, there are 20 children who are all children of three brothers. These three brothers are all gone, and presumed either dead or missing in Kosovo. All three mothers are missing and presumed dead in Kosovo. The adults accompanying the children are the sister of the brothers who is in her late 60s, and the grandmother who was born in 1908, who is currently sleeping on a wooden pallet in the camps. So, for her to have lived through World War I and World War II, Vietnam, Korea, and to be now facing the final years in a camp, are beyond anything I've ever seen or expected to encounter.

While we were there we did meet up with several refugees—medical students, doctors, lawyers. It's interesting when you meet a lawyer who talks about his practice and he's wearing a suit and tie and he lives in a tent and he's in bare feet. He's walking around in the mud without shoes because the Serb police took his shoes. These people, aside from living in denial and shock, need help ever so desperately.

If everyone is captured today by the top story, which is the Columbine High School tragedy, imagine that happening five times a day, every day, for five years. That's what's happening in Kosovo. It's that multiplied 10,000 times. And for some reason we as Americans have placed a value on an American life higher than that of any other. It could be because Americans are more photogenic, better groomed, live in nicer homes. Whatever it is, it's not right. These people are as valuable as we are. And to discount them, or to shrug them off—as I read in the Wall Street Journal yesterday, that markets are up and doing well and apparently have shrugged off the Kosovo crisis—enrages me.

While we were there I met a medical student, a female, 23 years old, who was in the camp right next door to another camp. She knew where her family was: in the other camp. Yet she was forced to stay in that camp for 16 days. I gave her my video camera, my jacket, my backpack, and we smuggled her out of the camp. All we did was drive a few short miles to the next camp to reunite her with her family which she hadn't seen in over two months. But she'd been in this camp for 16 days after finding out where her family was. The Macedonian police are in my opinion not helping the situation. They are pro-Serb for the most part. And the U.S. needs to take as big a role in the humanitarian side of things as they have in the military.

[From the Chicago Tribune, May 1, 1999]

TWO WHO FLED KOSOVO LAND IN CHICAGO

(By Julie Dearthoff)

She is only 2 years old, but Kosovo's Besarta Ferataj has already seen more suffering than most will experience in a lifetime. She has watched death and dismemberment. She has been hungry and has gone without sleep. And she automatically says "bomb" when she hears the word NATO or a loud noise.

But Bersarta could be considered one of the lucky ones from Kosovo. On Friday, she and her mother, Shefkije, quietly arrived at Chicago's Midway Airport, two of the first refugees allowed into the United States from the Balkans.

Stepping off an AirTran flight from Washington, D.C., in her new Teletubby shoes, Besarta hugged a stuffed koala and stared at the foreign surroundings. Shefkije, wiping tears of joy and disbelief from her eyes, hugged family and friends and held her daughter tightly. In Shefkije's purse were precious six-month visas allowing them into the U.S., marked No. 1 and No. 2.

Their arrival came before next week's expected wave of about 20,000 refugees sponsored by relief organizations, and is due almost entirely to the fierce, relentless drive of Chicago beauty salon owner Ana Ferataj Mehmetaj, Shefkije's older sister.

Mehmetaj left for the Balkans on her own two weeks ago, in a desperate search for her three sisters. Her childhood home in Istog had already been burned to the ground. She had no idea how to find all of them, let alone transport them back. But she planned to stay until she did.

"From the first day on, I knew I had to do something for my family because I know what Slobodan Milosevic is capable of," said Mehmetaj, who came to the U.S. alone more than 25 years ago, when she was just 17. "When I was watching everything on television, I felt if I didn't do something for my family I would never forgive myself. Now I feel worse. I saw kids without eyes. I saw people taking clothes off the dead and covering children. I say . . . I saw things you should never see. I couldn't sleep at night, couldn't eat. I felt so guilty. It's so different from watching a war in the living room."

Remarkably, she found Shefkije and Besarta at a friend's home in Macedonia. Days earlier, the two had been plucked out of Radusha, a refugee camp, thanks to money Mehmetaj supplied to pay off the guards.

Their journey to the camp had been an ordeal in itself. They traveled at night to avoid Serbian patrols. Eventually, they made it to Macedonia. "Every time I talked to her on the phone I thought it was the last," Mehmetaj said. "As soon as I arrived, we just hugged and both started crying. She knew she was safe."

Initially, Mehmetaj said, the U.S. Embassy in Macedonia would not issue visas for the two because the official refugee program was not yet in place. But a friend, California commodities trader Tony Elgindy, worked the Internet—contacting friends and politicians, including Sen. Spencer Abraham (R-Mich.), asking for help. About a week later, Mehmetaj received a call from the U.S. Embassy. She said Pat Walsh, the head of consular services at the embassy, told her she could take her sister and her niece back to the U.S. immediately, and several other Kosovar Albanians at a later date.

Mehmetaj is also sponsoring a family of four, paying for their transportation to the U.S., their housing and food.

"It's still a dream," said Shefkije. "I feel happy, but I also feel so bad when I think of my people in Kosovo. They need clothes;

they need help. I am OK. But my people are not."

During the grueling, emotional two-week journey, Mehmetaj managed to locate a second sister, Sofije, who had trudged through mountains, eaten snow and was living with her family in an abandoned cigarette factory in Skorg, Albania. The factory was crammed with refugees, and Sofije was located by a friend who spent hours roaming through the nine stories of the building, calling out her name.

"I was so frightened for the first time in my life," said Mehmetaj, who made the dangerous eight-hour trip to Albania alone and in the dead of night, against the wishes of her husband. "When I found Sofije, I tried to separate her family and take them away, but there were only about 30 people left (alive) from her village and they didn't want to be apart. So I promised to help them too."

Though she was unable to bring Sofije, her husband and their five children back to the United States this time, Mehmetaj rented two apartments for the family and other Kosovars from the village of Skorg. She also bought them food and clothing.

A third sister and her family are still missing. But Ferataj said the minute she finds out where they are, she will be on the next plane to Greece.

"We were all scared for her safety—it was highly risky, but she has her own mind, thank God," said Alenna Hiles, one of Mehmetaj's closest friends who greeted her at Midway Airport. "It's a miracle she made this happen. She not only found them but got them back here before the refugee program was in place."

Most of the Kosovar refugees will begin arriving in Chicago, Detroit, Boston and New York—cities selected because they have substantial Albanian populations—as early as Wednesday, according to a State Department spokesman. The State Department has encouraged people with relatives to assist in refugee resettlement.

The second oldest of nine siblings, Mehmetaj owns the European Touch salon and day spa in Dearborn Station, her seventh salon, and drives a car with the license plate "KOSOV A M." Friends and family describe her as tough and fearless.

Most of her family has left Istog, the town where they were raised. Six months before the war, Mehmetaj convinced her mother, Gjyle, to leave Kosovo and move in with a brother in Switzerland. When Istog fell to the Yugoslav army, more than 15,000 refugees fled to Rozaje, Montenegro.

"(My mother) is very determined to get what she wants," said Mehmetaj's 20-year-old daughter, Linda. "Either way she was going to do it, whether the United States was going to allow it or not."

Mehmetaj, Shefkije and Besarta arrived in New York on Wednesday and spent Thursday in Washington, D.C., meeting with several senators and briefing politicians about the situation in Kosovo. Friday, they were weary but overjoyed to be together.

After stopping at the salon to see family members, they all returned to Mehmetaj's South Loop condominium. There, Shefkije gazed at the stunning view of Chicago from the 25th floor. Both mother and child looked curiously at all the things in Mehmetaj's apartment.

"We're so happy for them to be here. They'll have everything they need from all of us," said brother Rich Ferataj, 37, who also owns a salon and lives in Oak Lawn. "I think for now we'll just try to laugh and talk about old times."

FOUNTAIN CITY POLICE CHIEF
JEFF LIEBERMAN HONORED:
MARCH 1999 NATIONAL POLICE
OFFICER OF THE MONTH

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Jeff Lieberman, Police Chief in Fountain City, Wisconsin. Chief Lieberman was honored recently by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund as the National Police Officer of the Month. Chief Lieberman is the first and only small-town law officer ever to receive this honor.

Chief Lieberman was chosen for this honor because of his dedication to children, his phenomenal 99 percent conviction rate and his close ties to his community. At Fountain City, Chief Lieberman established the Police Awareness and Learning Safety (PALS) program. The PALS program gives children at the Cochrane-Fountain City elementary school the opportunity to know and interact with a police officer. PALS is designed to provide children with knowledge, skills and attitudes regarding their personal safety, placing emphasis on decision-making and the choices they make in their lives.

Chief Lieberman's commitment to his community, and especially the children, makes him a model police officer and truly deserving of this recognition. As this nation struggles with problems of violence in our schools and our communities, Chief Lieberman is proactively working to prevent problems from developing. We need more police officers like Chief Jeff Lieberman.

The people of Fountain City are fortunate to have an outstanding public servant in Chief Lieberman. I commend Jeff, his wife Kim and daughter Paige, for their love and dedication to western Wisconsin and I congratulate Jeff on this honor.

TRIBUTE TO NUNE YESAYAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Nune Yesayan for her outstanding musical talent. Nune is considered to be a "modern-day minstrel" from Armenia, who herself has survived a traumatic personal history, but has emerged to breathe a new life of hope and beauty into the present day Armenian experience.

Nune has been called the "Armenian Madonna," however, love for her music and its message spans generations and cultures. Her extraordinary, emotion-provoking voice, reminiscent of one who has gained life-lessons from a long and tiring journey, and her use of ancient instruments appeals to a wide dynamic of fans, from "hip" Generation Xers to Baby Boomers, and from lovers of traditional music to those with more "eccentric" music tastes. It is her message, however, drawing Armenians world-wide, which provokes a connection to "home," and delivers truths about the identity, language and culture of the Arme-

nian people. They are songs about the beauty of the homeland, (Armenia) and of the people, the strength of the Armenian character, and the nostalgia of what once was with the hope that it can be reclaimed.

At no other time in the modern-day Armenian experience has one performer captured so much attention in such a short period of time. Sold out concerts in Armenia launched the 29-year-old's career. Nune has performed for Armenian troops near the Azeri border, and in Yerevan, Lebanon, Syria and Cyprus. Nune's near-instant stardom led her to California where she performed for mobs of fans. She also appeared at an A.Y.F. picnic, at schools, and in record stores. Nune has produced two CDS and several innovative music videos. She was the only vocalist invited to participate in a 20-hour live broadcast commemorating the tenth anniversary of the December 7, 1988 Armenian earthquake. Adding to this impressive résumé Nune's two Anoush Awards granted to her at the Armenian Music Awards in October, one for "most popular album" and the other for "best female vocalist."

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Nune Yesayan for doing her part to rejuvenate the "Armenian soul" and bridge generational and cultural gaps, bringing families and strangers together with her music. Nune recently played at a concert in Fresno, in my district, at the Armenian Community Center. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Nune many years of continued success.

WESLEY CHAPEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH CELEBRATES ITS 134th ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor the Wesley Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Edwardsville, Illinois upon its 134th anniversary.

On May 6th, the Wesley Chapel held special services to celebrate its 134th anniversary, specifically video taping the proceedings for those members of the church who were unable to participate due to age or other reasons. The celebration featured reflections of the church and its members and featured statements about the church and its impact from the oldest member, 98 year-old Alma Jackson to 12 year-old Terry Bradshaw who represented the youngest members of the church.

Wesley Chapel was founded on the banks of Cahokia Creek at the end of the Civil War. It has been at its current location at 418 Aldrup since 1881 and is currently preparing for the possibility of a new church.

My congratulations go out to Pastor Dwight Bell and Joyce Hariston and Jessie Brown who served as co-chairs of the anniversary committee as well as the entire congregation at the Wesley Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The commitment to and love of faith will make a difference for generations to come.

"AN S.O.S. FROM TAIWAN"

HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a very important piece of legislation together with Representatives ANDREWS, GILMAN, DEUTSCH, ROHRBACHER, WU, COX, JEFFERSON, DIAZ-BALART, LOWEY, CHRIS SMITH, HUNTER, BURTON, COOK, and DAVE WELDON.

This bill gives Taiwan a fighting chance to defend itself from a potential Chinese invasion. The Taiwan Security Enhancement Act we are introducing today also stabilizes Taiwan by strengthening U.S.-Taiwanese cooperation.

The Far East is no less pressing than the Middle East or Eastern Europe, where we are heavily involved now. Stability of the entire Asian region is predicated on a balance of power that keeps China in check.

The May 24, 1999, issue of Defense News reports that China could be planning a new round of military exercises and missile tests across the Taiwan Strait in response to American bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade.

Typically, no U.S. action has been undertaken in the past to discourage these movements because the Administration's Taiwan policy has been missing-in-action for years. Habitual appeasement of China has grown into an addiction that now seriously threatens global security.

Despite President Clinton's claim a few weeks ago that the People's Republic is not a threat, Chinese intentions to the contrary are clear. They have been saber rattling for years.

A clear message was sent when China fired missile tests off the coast of Taiwan in 1995 and 1996. Since then, a massive Chinese missile and military logistical buildup across the Taiwan Straits has served as a constant threat. Waiting for the next shoe to fall before acting would be a costly mistake.

The image of Red Army tanks rolling into Hong Kong should not be forgotten. Neither should the threat by a high-ranking Chinese general to nuke Los Angeles if we interfere in Taiwan.

Adding legitimacy to these loose lips, the Chinese military held practice missile attack exercises against mock U.S. troops just six months ago.

Ever since the annexation of Hong Kong and Macau, consuming Taiwan has become a pressing goal for the expansionist communist government in Beijing. An ounce of prevention now will save a ton of band-aid cures after-the-fact. There will be no way to oust the Chinese should they ever take Taiwan.

The Taiwanese are not asking us to send troops.

They are not asking us to bomb other sovereign nations.

They simply need strategic military advice, technological expertise and access to purchase appropriate American defense systems so they can defend themselves. United States policy must bolster the independence of this little nation.

A few reasonable measures of cooperation would go a long way for the island's defense.

For example, the United States should sell diesel submarines to Taiwan, which is outnumbered in the seas 65 to 4 by the mainland's forces.

Likewise, there is a dire need for air defense that could be rectified by the sale of American-made AIM 120 missiles, long-range radar and satellite warning data.

Enhanced military exchanges would forge a cohesive defense plan between our nations.

But, acquiescing to pressure from Beijing, the Clinton Administration refuses to sell these systems and take these steps despite a massive Chinese military buildup.

The Defense Intelligence Agency reports that the People's Liberation Army is currently deploying approximately 650 new short-range missile systems directly across the straits. There are 150 such missiles aimed at Taiwan already in addition to fevered construction of new fighter planes, warships and subs.

Under the Taiwan Relations Act, the United States committed to providing a defense capability to Taiwan based upon their defense needs. The need is pressing—the time to act on this promise is now.

Appealing to the chivalrous instincts of Americans, the Clinton Administration plants troops all over the world under the guise of defending the proverbial little guy from aggressive bully nations.

Supposedly, that is what we are doing in the Balkans—but bombs flying on Belgrade do not erase American responsibility elsewhere. The Taiwan Security Enhancement Act honors our commitment to stability in Taiwan by increasing cooperation between U.S. and Taiwanese militaries, and increasing sales of defensive technology and weaponry while prohibiting reductions in arms sales.

Mr. Speaker, American prestige is not only on the line in the Balkans. We must honor our commitments in the Taiwan Strait. I urge all of my colleagues to support the Taiwan Security Enhancement Act.

THANKS TO WILLIAM "BILL"
KENNOY

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today, the Tennessee Valley Authority is losing a great leader. After a successful eight-year term on the TVA Board, William "Bill" Kennoy is stepping down.

Bill Kennoy was appointed to the TVA Board by President George Bush and was sworn in on May 31, 1991. Over the past eight years, William Kennoy has contributed a great deal to the citizens of the Tennessee Valley. His competent leadership helped to secure the refinancing of TVA's \$3.2 billion debt. Additionally, he was instrumental in preserving the Land Between the Lakes Recreational Area.

All who know Bill Kennoy agree that he is a compassionate leader who has served the public well over his term as a TVA Director. He is the longest-serving member of TVA's current Board of Directors. Bill Kennoy even led TVA during transition period between the previous and current Boards.

Before coming to TVA, Bill Kennoy led Kennoy Engineers, Inc., an environmental firm in Lexington, Kentucky. He brought over 25 years of experience to the Board as a professional engineer and business executive. In fact, he will now return to private life and again be involved in the engineering business.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Kennoy has contributed a great deal to this Nation, but I would like to highlight one of his accomplishments that I am especially proud of. William Kennoy founded the "Weekend Academy" for inner-city youth in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Memphis, and Nashville, Tennessee. The Weekend Academy is a mentoring program that encourages youth to pursue careers in business districts near their homes. I believe this says a tremendous amount about Bill Kennoy.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I join with all Americans in thanking William Kennoy for his service to our Nation over the past eight years. I have included a copy of an editorial written in the Knoxville News-Sentinel honoring William Kennoy that I would like to call to the attention of my fellow members and other readers of the RECORD.

[From the Knoxville News-Sentinel, May 18, 1999]

SERVICE RENDERED

The Tennessee Valley Authority will say good-bye to one of its three board members today, and all in the valley should pause for a salute to William Kennoy.

A Republican nominated to the TVA board by President Bush, Kennoy ends his eight-year term and will return to private life and his chosen profession of engineering.

His departure will leave the board with only one member until two replacements are appointed. That was a situation in which Kennoy found himself in 1993, the year current chairman Craven Crowell and recently departed member Johnny Hayes were appointed to the board.

Kennoy's relationship with the federal utility he later would help manage began long before his appointment to the board. Kennoy's father was a TVA engineer working on the Guntersville Dam in north Alabama. Kennoy said his appointment was "an opportunity to pay TVA back for what it has done for me."

It speaks well for Kennoy that he regards as his signal accomplishment at TVA the launching of "Weekend Academy," a mentoring program for children living near downtown in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Nashville and Memphis. The program attempts to help inner-city children achieve success and encourage them to pursue careers in business districts near their homes.

Kennoy also cites among his accomplishments the refinancing of TVA's \$3.2 billion debt, improving agency contracts and preserving the Land Between the Lakes Recreation Area.

Kennoy's deliberate, calm style that led him to work out disagreements behind the scenes instead of allowing meetings to degenerate into unnecessary bickering might well be another accomplishment. This trait drew praise from a former board member, U.S. Rep. Bob Clement, a Nashville Democrat: "You don't see him raise his voice. Bill is very smart, deliberate and compassionate."

Clearly TVA is better for Kennoy's leadership. As Kennoy steps down today, we thank him for his service on TVA's board and wish him the best for the future.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER COMMERCIALIZATION ACT WOULD ELIMINATE PUBLIC INTEREST PROTECTIONS ON LICENSING OF INVENTIONS RESULTING FROM TAXPAYER-FUNDED RESEARCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, on May 11, 1999, the House of Representatives approved H.R. 209, the Technology Transfer Commercialization Act, by a voice vote after it was placed on the Suspension Calendar. Further analysis of this measure indicates that its fundamental thrust is to water down or eliminate a range of public interest protections that currently are in effect. If enacted in its current form, H.R. 209—and its companion bill, S. 804, currently being considered by the other body—would allow the government to act behind the scenes, with little public oversight, to grant exclusive licenses to firms that wish to commercialize products that have been developed through taxpayer-funded research. These provisions do not serve the public interest. Congress needs to take a closer look at the implications of H.R. 209 and S. 804. The following analysis explains the problems with the bill in detail.

ANALYSIS OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER COMMERCIALIZATION ACT (H.R. 209) BY CONSUMER PROJECT ON TECHNOLOGY

(By James Love)

1. THE LEGISLATION REDUCES COMPETITION.

Both H.R. 209 and S. 804 eliminate the statutory requirements in 35 U.S.C. 209(c)(1)(b) that before using an exclusive license, an agency make a finding that: "the desired practical application has not been achieved, or is not likely expeditiously to be achieved, under any nonexclusive license which has been granted, or which may be granted, on the invention;"

This is an important change in existing law. It is currently illegal to use an exclusive license if development is likely to be expeditiously achieved with a non-exclusive license. However, under the new bills, this will change, and it will be possible to use an exclusive license merely by meeting the much lesser requirement that "granting the license is a reasonable and necessary incentive to . . . promote the invention's utilization by the public." The consequence of this change will be fewer non-exclusive licenses, less competition, and more monopolies on taxpayer owned inventions.

2. THE PUBLIC'S RIGHTS TO NOTICE AND COMMENT ON EXCLUSIVE LICENSING OF GOVERNMENT INVENTIONS IS VASTLY REDUCED

H.R. 209 and S. 804 both gut public notice provisions for exclusive license agreements from government owned inventions. Under existing law, agencies are normally expected to provide 90 days notice that the invention is available to the public for licensing, followed by 60 days notice with an opportunity to file objections for proposals to provide an exclusive license to a particular party. [See: 37CFR404.7(a)(1)]

S. 804 and H.R. 209 reduce notice requirements to "in an appropriate manner at least 15 days before the license is granted." According to the House Report on H.R. 209, this eliminates also the need to provide notice in the Federal Register. S. 804 and H.R. 209 exempt even this modest requirement for "licensing of inventions made under a cooperative research and development agreement

(CRADA) entered into under section 12 of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710a)."

The change virtually eliminates the practical rights of the public to raise objections to the use of an exclusive license or to even question the terms of the license (including the scope of the exclusivity).

3. THE INCREASED SECRECY ON LICENSES UNDERMINES THE PUBLIC'S RIGHTS AND REDUCES ACCOUNTABILITY

There are a number of current cases where the public is seeking information about government licenses, including such items as the royalties or other considerations paid for the license, the revenues from the invention, information about the availability of the invention to the public, or justification for prices charged consumers.

H.R. 209 modifies existing statutory language to require that such information be secret from the public. Language in 35 U.S.C. section 209 that says that information "may be treated by a federal agency as . . . privileged and confidential and not subject to disclosure under" the freedom of information act, is changed to say that such information "shall be treated as privileged and confidential. . . ." NIH licensing officials claim the change from "may" to "shall" will make a much broader amount of information secret, including even basic information such as the amount of money received by the government as payment for use of a patent. Indeed, in section 10 of H.R. 209, federal agencies are not even permitted to report statistical information on royalties received for licenses, if "such information would reveal the amount of royalty income associated with an individual license or licensee."

This is truly adding insult to injury. Not only will the public be denied a practical opportunity to stop an agency from giving an exclusive license on a government owned patent or to effectively challenge the terms of the patent—taxpayers will not even be permitted to know what the terms are!

4. PROBLEMS IN LICENSING OF FEDERALLY FUNDED INVENTIONS.

There are currently significant disputes regarding the use of exclusive licenses for a wide range of government funded inventions, including inventions in the areas of software, computing equipment, biotechnology and medicines.

Regarding the areas of licensing of government funded medical inventions. The existence of public notice permits consumers or potential competitors to object to the use or scope of exclusive licensing. For example, when Bristol-Myers (Squibb) sought an extension of its exclusive license to cis-platin, a cancer drug developed at taxpayer expense, Adria Laboratories, Stuart Pharmaceuticals, American Cyanamide, Elkins-Sinn and Andrulis Research objected to the proposed extension, arguing that the public interest would be served by non-exclusive licensing. Andrulis suggested non-exclusive licensing be coupled with higher royalties to fund cancer research. As a result of the public comments, Bristol-Myers offered to lower the price of cis-platin by 30 percent and fund \$35 million in extramural cancer research, in return for the extension of the license.

More recently there has been considerable controversy over Bristol-Myers Squibb's licensing of government data and patents relating to the cancer drug Taxol and the HIV drug ddI, as well as Bristol-Myers policies regarding pricing of d4T, another government funded HIV drug. Also, public health groups who are interested in malaria are concerned about efforts by SmithKline Beecham to obtain exclusive rights to new malaria drugs invented by the US Army and Navy. In many of these controversies, public health groups

are seeking to obtain basic economic information, such as the royalty rates paid on the licenses, the amount of sales of the products, or the amount of money the company will spend on subsequent development of the government invention. These are not trivial disputes. Bristol-Myers Squibb claimed to have spent \$114 million to develop Taxol, but subsequent data placed the BMS contributions at less than \$10 million prior to FDA approval of the drug. The decision by the NIH to grant BMS exclusive rights to two "treatment regime" patents on doses of Taxol extended the Taxol monopoly at least 30 months, costing consumers and taxpayers \$1.27 billion, according to one study (Richard P. Rozek, Costs to the U.S. Health Care System of Extending Marketing Exclusivity for Taxol, N.E.R.A., Washington, DC, March 1997).

The current controversy with ddI, a US government patented AIDS drug, illustrates some of these problems. The Bush Administration granted Bristol-Myers 10 years of exclusivity on ddI, beginning 1989. Patient groups are trying to determine when or if Bristol-Myers will seek to extend the exclusivity on the patent. The pricing of ddI is considered highly suspect by AIDS patients. Patient advocates would like to find out when such a patent extension is proposed, and to insist on public disclosures of revenues and development costs, to determine if the exclusivity should be continued. Like all AIDS drugs, ddI is expensive, both for consumers and for taxpayers who fund care for many AIDS patients. Competition is expected to lead to significant decreases in prices. Under HR 209, the extension of the patent exclusivity could easily be done before patients could even find out about the proposed extension. Indeed, this may have already happened, due to the difficulty in monitoring such license extensions, and the unwillingness of the NIH to make it easier to monitor these issues or even answer questions about the licenses. But by reducing the notice requirements to 15 days, the public will have no rights.

In some cases, NIH funded inventions are priced at more than \$100,000 per year. It won't be long before we see prices higher than \$1 million per year per patient for some drugs. How can the US government justify issuing exclusive licenses for life and death therapies, without giving the public the right to speak, or to even find out what the terms of the license are? And why do policy makers permit drug companies to make ludicrous and clearly false public statements regarding the costs of bringing US government pharmaceutical inventions to market, and then make all data on the real costs a state secret?

If the purpose of HR 209 or S. 804 is to make it easier to get exclusive rights on government property, the legislation succeeds. If the purpose is to protect the public's rights in taxpayer property, the legislation fails. We think the second issue is the one that needs greater attention by our elected members of Congress.

HONORING THE STUDENTS OF LAKESHORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the students of Lakeshore Elementary School in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. I want to

recognize their true concern and compassion for the innocent children in Kosovo.

The story of Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes, by Eleanor Coerr, is a story of strength and courage of one young child diagnosed with leukemia after being exposed to radiation from the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan on August 6, 1945. Sadako tried to make 1,000 paper cranes, which according to legend, would bring her long life. The students of Lakeshore Elementary School gathered together on May 10, 1999, after watching a movie about Sadako and successfully made 1,000 paper cranes in honor of the children in Kosovo. Through their dedication in making these 1,000 paper cranes, the students in my district have become active participants in the international community. They have become messengers of peace and have shown the importance of supporting the children of Kosovo during this time of difficulty.

I hope to visit the Balkan region in the near future and personally deliver some of these special paper cranes and inform some of the children of Kosovo that there are children in the United States who are concerned about their fate. On behalf of the students of Lakeshore Elementary School, I will be able to offer the children of Kosovo these paper cranes as symbols of courage and long life. I salute the Lakeshore Elementary School students, faculty and staff including Dr. Mary Seitz, and Lucianne Boardman for inspiring peace and understanding throughout the world.

TRIBUTE TO KARL F. BAUMANN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Karl F. Baumann for his outstanding dedication to the growth of Mariposa County. Karl was a "strong and commanding" man who had a vision to develop the barren acres of Cathey's Valley into a town successful in both business and community.

Karl ventured into Cathey's Valley from Southern California 16 years ago when he purchased an 800-acre ranch. It was then that Karl had a vision to develop this ranch into something more. To fulfill his vision of a sound and safe community, Karl subdivided his ranch and built The Whispering Oaks Estates, currently home to many Mariposans. The next project that Karl embarked upon led to the creation of the Cathey's Valley business park. Since then, the business park has contributed greatly to the economy of Cathey's Valley and Mariposa County.

Karl's leadership was also noted by his membership in the #98 Masonic Lodge in Hornitos, the Mariposa County Board of Realtors, and as owner of the Cathey's Valley Realty and Development. Karl has been credited for the amazing growth of Cathey's Valley by many of his colleagues and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize Mr. Karl F. Baumann for his leadership and strength in paving the way for a successful community to grow and flourish. His contribution to the San Joaquin Valley is incomparable. I urge my colleagues to join

me in wishing the Baumann family and Cathey's Valley continued success for the years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO DUANE ROHMALLER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor Duane Rohmaller of Christ Lutheran Church and School in Costa Mesa, California upon the announcement of his retirement following forty-one years as a valued Lutheran educator, administrator and friend.

Mr. Rohmaller's friends and admirers are planning a weekend celebration to honor his many contributions to our children, our communities, our faith and our future.

I know Mr. Rohmaller best from his service as my eighth grade teacher at Holy Cross Lutheran School in Collinsville, Illinois. When I reflect on all that he taught me, I am reminded of Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Thank you Mr. Rohmaller for your teachings, your values, your commitment and your love of our faith. Your life's work will continue to make a difference for generations to come.

PENALTIES FOR EXPOSING THE IDENTITIES OF INTELLIGENCE AGENTS

HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I insert the following speech for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

MANDATORY PENALTIES FOR EXPOSING THE IDENTITIES OF U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENTS

Mr. Speaker, I commend Congressman Sweeney for bringing this subject to our attention. The nation is being confronted every day it seems with graver and more alarming revelations about breaches of our national security at our weapons labs and other facilities. It should not be overlooked that it was due in large part to the efforts of our intelligence agents that these breaches were first suspected and then subsequently investigated by the FBI and others.

So, it is appropriate at this time to increase the protection for both current and former covert intelligence officers around the world by increasing the criminal penalties for those who willfully divulge their identities to the world. Anyone who deliberately puts American agents' lives, those of their families, and America's security at risk should face a minimum sentence in prison as well. Mr. Sweeney's amendment does that by establishing mandatory minimum sentences for willfully identifying covert agents.

As many of us recall, the current law, the Intelligence Identities Protection Act, was passed after the CIA Station Chief in Greece, Richard Welch, was assassinated after Counter Spy exposed his identity. Ex-CIA agent Phillip Agee was also responsible for repeated disclosures of the names of intel-

ligence personnel and the Supreme Court held that such disclosures are not protected under the First Amendment.

The amendment also addresses the absurdity in the law that allows people to obtain information about former U.S. intelligence activities under the Freedom of Information Act, but does not prohibit people from turning around and identifying intelligence agents who have retired.

To address this shortcoming, the amendment expands the law to include former covert agents under its protections because identifying former agents, their activities and locations not only compromises on-going intelligence efforts, but exposes the former agents and their families to danger and retaliation from our nation's adversaries.

Any individual who has served our country at considerable risk to themselves and their families deserves all the protection we can provide under the law—not only while they serve, but when they retire as well. In this day of vicious, global terrorism, exposing current or former intelligence agents should be subject to severe and mandatory criminal penalties.

The amendment does that and I urge members to vote for it.

TRIBUTE TO RUSSELL "RUSTY" BERRY

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great Arkansan and great American.

He is my wonderful brother Russell (Rusty) Berry. Rusty was the last of four children born to Eleanor and Lloyd Berry in the Bayou Meto community of Arkansas County, Arkansas. They would be filled with pride to see him today, successful and responsible.

Since he was ten years younger than his siblings the opportunity to be spoiled was great. He managed to overcome the influence of his siblings to become an accomplished attorney and stepfather.

The loss of both parents before he finished high school presented a situation that could have been quite negative, but because of strong character passed on to him from our wonderful parents, he managed to successfully negotiate the treacherous waters of the seventies.

As a country lawyer he continues to serve all the people with great skill and not just the ones that can pay. He is a credit to his profession, community, and family.

He is one of the Berry Brothers. This means that he is always there when needed and never questions the need. It also means he has shared many pleasurable days in the field or woods with these same brothers.

He is admired and loved by his nieces and nephews along with his step children. Uncle Rusty being around always brings excitement and anticipation for the children.

He is a part of a vanishing group that came from the Bayou Meto-One Horse Store community where being neighbors and helping each other was a way of life.

The world is a better place for his having been here, and we are all richer because he is part of our family.

I am proud to call him my brother, and think of him with great love and affection.

HONORING CHABAD OF THE FIVE TOWNS ON THEIR SECOND ANNUAL DINNER TO "CELEBRATE THE DREAM"

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chabad of the Five Towns on the occasion of its Second Annual Dinner to "Celebrate the Dream," on May 25th, 1999 and their honorees Mr. and Mrs. Simon Eisdorfer, Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Mark, Dr. and Mrs. Stanley Nussbaum and Dr. and Mrs. Justin Cohen.

I would also like to pay tribute to their spiritual leader, Rabbi Shneur Wolowik, who guidance, dedication, compassion and spirituality has helped Chabad of the Five Towns reach this milestone.

Chabad of the Five Towns opened its doors four years ago with the mission of translating deeply-rooted Jewish concepts into a practical foundation of life, just as the Chabad Jubavitch movement has done for over two centuries.

Chabad reaches out to fellow Jews on a global scale with over 2,300 centers worldwide. In the Five Towns, they have helped hundreds of families both spiritually and materially, whether it be a new immigrant, someone in need, a youth in trouble, or a family or individual who wants to learn more about their heritage, Chabad is there to help. In addition, they believe Judaism should be celebrated with joy, excitement, and enthusiasm, whether it be a holiday celebration, a Passover Seder, a Shabbaton Dinner, a family barbecue, or an outing.

Most importantly, Chabad sees its children as proud Americans, knowledgeable of our country's rich history and democratic ideals, and is pleased with the special relationship between Israel and the United States.

I commend Chabad for its philosophy of inclusion and acceptance, treating every human being as special and worthy, deserving of attention and support, regardless of their religious affiliation or background. It is this embracing of all, without expecting anything in return, that has given impetus to the impressive growth of the Chabad of the Five Towns. After only four years, they are now "Celebrating the Dream" of a beautiful new expanded facility in which they can continue to serve the community. I wish to thank them for their tireless efforts and outstanding contributions that have bettered the lives of so many.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1789

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enlist support for a bill I have introduced to repeal statutes which have now resulted in more than one hundred years of government intervention in the marketplace. In 1890, at the behest of Senator Sherman, the Sherman Antitrust Act was passed allowing the federal government

to intervene in the process of competition, inter alia, whenever a firm captured market share by offering a better product at a lower price. The Market Process Restoration Act of 1999, H.R. 1789, will preclude such intervention.

Antitrust statutes governmentally facilitate interference in the voluntary market transactions of individuals. Evaluation of the antitrust laws has not proceeded from an analysis of their nature or of their necessary consequences, but from an impressionistic reaction to their announced gain.

Alan Greenspan, now Chairman of the Federal Reserve, described the "world of antitrust" as "reminiscent of Alice's Wonderland: Everything seemingly is, yet apparently isn't, simultaneously." Antitrust is, according to Greenspan "a world in which competition is lauded as the basic axiom and guiding principle, yet, 'too much' competition is condemned as 'cutthroat'." * * * A world in which actions designed to limit competition are branded as criminal when taken by businessmen, yet praised as 'enlightened' when initiated by government. A world in which the law is so vague that businessmen have no way of knowing whether specific actions will be declared illegal until they hear the judge's verdict—after the fact." And, of course, obscure, incoherent, and vague legislation can make legality unattainable by anyone, or at least unattainable without an unauthorized revision which itself impairs legality.

The Sherman Act was a tool used to regulate some of the most competitive industries in America, which were rapidly expanding their output and reducing their prices, much to the dismay of their less efficient (but politically influential) competitors. The Sherman Act, moreover, was used as a political fig leaf to shield the real cause of monopoly in the late 1880's—protectionism. The chief sponsor of the 1890 tariff bill, passed just three months after the Sherman Act, was none other than Senator Sherman himself.

One function of the Sherman Act was to divert public attention from the certain source of monopoly—Government's grant of exclusive privilege. But, as George Reisman, Professor of Economics at Pepperdine University's Graziadio School of Business and Management in Los Angeles, explains "everyone, it seems, took for granted the prevailing belief that the essential feature of monopoly is that a given product or service is provided by just one supplier. On this view of things, Microsoft, like Alcoa and Standard Oil before it, belongs in the same category as the old British East India Company or such more recent instances of companies with exclusive government franchises as the local gas or electric company or the U.S. Postal Service with respect to the delivery of first class mail. What all of these cases have in common, and which is considered essential to the existence of monopoly, according to the prevailing view, is that they all represent instances in which there is only one seller. By the same token, what is not considered essential, according to the prevailing view of monopoly, is whether the sellers position depends on the initiation of physical force or, to the contrary, is achieved as the result of freedom of competition and the choice of the market."

Microsoft, Alcoa, and Standard Oil represent cases of a sole supplier, or at least come close to such a case. However, totally unlike

the cases of exclusive government franchises, their position in the market is not (or was not) the result of the initiation of physical force but rather the result of their successful free competition. That is, they became sole suppliers by virtue of being able to produce products profitably at prices too low for other suppliers to remain in or enter the market, or to produce products whose performance and quality others simply could not match.

Even proponents of antitrust prosecution acknowledge this. In the Standard Oil case, the U.S. Supreme Court declared in its 1911 decision breaking up the company: "Much has been said in favor of the objects of the Standard Oil Trust, and what it has accomplished. It may be true that it has improved the quality and cheapened the costs of petroleum and its products to the consumer."

It is the dynamic model of competition under which only "free" entry is required that insures maximization of consumer welfare within the nature-given condition of scarcity and reconciles the ideal of pure liberty with that of economic efficiency. The free market in the world of production may be termed "free competition" or "free entry", meaning that in a free society anyone is free to compete and produce in any field he chooses. "Free competition" is the application of liberty to the sphere of production: the freedom to buy, sell, and transform one's property without violent interference by an external power.

As argued by Alan Greenspan, "the ultimate regulator of competition in a free economy is the capital market. So long as capital is free to flow, it will tend to seek those areas which offer the maximum rate of return."

The purpose of my bill is to restore the inherent benefits of the market economy by repealing the Federal body of statutory law which currently prevents efficiency-maximizing voluntary exchange.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND
MONSIGNOR GERARD LA CERRA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize a man for whom the South Florida Community has the utmost respect, esteem and admiration, Reverend Monsignor Gerard La Cerra, who will celebrate 30 years in the priesthood on May 24th.

Monsignor La Cerra was ordained into the priesthood in Miami in 1969 and has been indispensable to our community from that moment on.

He has been a driving force in our city, possessing a truly "God-given" ability to bring people together from different cultures, religions and walks of life, for a greater good, both encompassing and dispensing brotherhood, fellowship and most of all, love.

He was instrumental in the very inception of the Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll High School and involved in every step of its formulation from the initial groundbreaking to the final ribbon cutting ceremony.

In 1995, this extraordinary man was designated Prelate of Honor with the title of Reverend Monsignor by His Holiness, Pope John Paul, II.

In addition to the many honors and accolades that Monsignor La Cerra received, he has been a tireless worker and advocate for the people of Miami and has served selflessly.

I would like all my colleagues to join me in honoring someone who is truly an inspiration and role model to everyone in the way that he has lived every single day of his life.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF JONATHAN P. CURTIS ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Jonathan P. Curtis, of Edon, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Mr. Speaker, Jonathan has accepted his offer of appointment and will be attending West Point this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2003. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Jonathan brings a great deal of leadership and dedication to the incoming West Point class of 2003. While attending Edon High School, Jonathan has attained a grade point average of 3.732, which currently places him third in his class of forty-six students. Jonathan is a member of the National Honor Society, and has participated in the United States Air Force Academy Summer Science Academy and the Invitational Academic Workshop at West Point.

Outside the classroom, Jonathan has excelled as a fine student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Jonathan has earned letters in Varsity Track, Cross Country, and Golf. He has also been active in the Edon High School marching band, pep band, concert band, Spanish club, and the D.A.R.E. program.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Jonathan P. Curtis. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Jonathan will do very well during his career at West Point, and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

MARY ANN MEYER OF COLLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS CELEBRATED HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JOHN M. SKIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor Mary Ann Meyer of Collinsville, Illinois who turned 100 on March 22, 1999.

On March 20th, her family and friends honored her at a special birthday party at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Collinsville.

For most of her adult life, she has been and avid pinochle and bridge player. In fact she was on the high score board for six months running at the Collinsville Senior Center when she was a mere 99 years young.

She attended SS. Peter and Paul Catholic School and Collinsville Township High School where she graduated in 1917. During her remarkable life, she has visited all 50 states and has traveled twice to Europe. She has been an active member of her church and had a career in banking at a time when many women weren't yet allowed let alone encouraged to do so.

She once said that her secret to a long life includes family, friends, music, traveling and plenty of hard work. Yet the most telling component of her secret was the most basic once when she said "Have faith in God. I still do."

Congratulations on 100 years of making a difference in our lives. Here's to the next 100.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT LEE
TENG-HUI

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, for many years now, I have joined my colleagues in congratulating the leaders of the Republic of China (ROC) on their National Day, on associated anniversaries, and other special occasions.

Today I congratulate President Lee Teng-hui on completing 3 years in office. President Lee is an energetic man who is moving forward on a number of diplomatic fronts to engage Taiwan as an emerging democracy and economic Pacific power.

In the years ahead, I hope that Taiwan will continue to enjoy its prosperity and freedom.

TRIBUTE TO MATT FONG

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Matt Fong for his service to the state of California and the United States. Matt Fong's leadership and accomplishments in Republican politics has had a profound impact on the advancement and quality of life in California and America.

Matt Fong has been committed to public service for many years, most recently as California Treasurer. As treasurer, Mr. Fong worked to create higher efficiency within the office, thereby saving California taxpayers millions of dollars. He earned additional funds for California schools, hospitals, and prisons through wise investments, and boosted California's ratings with investors. Mr. Fong has done much to increase funds for small business and education, and has also worked to revitalize California's inner cities.

Aside from his many accomplishments as California treasurer, Matt Fong is a United States Air Force Academy graduate. He

served as regent of Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, regent of Pepperdine University, where he received his master's degree in Business administration, and he was director of the Boy Scouts of America in the Los Angeles area. Other activities and awards include: National Commission on Economic Growth and Tax Reform, Congressional National Security Group, Chairman of the Governor's Task Force on State and Local Investment Practices, Chairman of the Pacific Rim Financial Summit, Distinguished Alumnus Award from both Pepperdine University and Southwestern University of Law where he received his jurist doctorate degree, Governing Magazine's Deal of the Year Award, Industry Award of Excellence from the National Federation of Municipal Analysts, honored for service to impoverished communities by the First AME Church of Los Angeles, excellence 2000 Award from the United States Pan Asian-American Chamber of Commerce, and the Simon Wiesenthal Center Award for efforts to promote restitution for Holocaust victims from Swiss banks.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Matt Fong for his service to the state of California, and the United States. Mr. Fong is a faithful public servant who has shown care and dedication to business, education and the well being of California and the American community as a whole. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Matt Fong many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD AND IRMA
POWELL

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful couple, The Powells.

Richard and Irma Powell are classic examples of the "Greatest Generation". They work hard, play by the rules, and achieve success doing so. They defined responsibility, honesty, thrift, and fair dealings. Their devotion to their family and church is extraordinary.

Both Richard and Irma Powell were born, raised and spent their entire lives in Stanley Point, Arkansas. They raised a large family of children that carry on the values that make the Powells so special.

After the loss of Richard some years ago it took years for Sunday to be the same with his absence from the front row. His occasional impromptu statements to the congregation were profound and memorable. There was never any doubt of his sincerity of commitment.

Mr. Powell was a great student of nature and human nature. The integrity and dedication of the Powells is a living example to all that knew them, especially to institutions like marriage. They were married for 59 years before Mr. Powell passed on.

They accept their lot philosophically, and epitomize the vision Thomas Jefferson had in mind when he helped found this great nation.

Our community is a better place because of their presence, and they are a bless to us all.

IN HONOR OF THE GRADUATION
VIP PROGRAM, NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the graduation of the Vocational Independence Program students (VIP) at the New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) in Central Islip, New York. It was my great pleasure to meet with these students in Washington, D.C. last month. They are a wonderful group and I am very proud of their achievement.

The Vocational Independence Program was founded in 1987 by Jim Rein, Dave Finkelstein and Neal Nelson. VIP is a work/study recreational program that establishes a transition for sixteen to twenty-one year old learning disabled young adults considering post-secondary career options. Soon after its creation, the program developed into what is the current year-round VIP program. The program provides continuing academic exposure to the students and as training for varied vocational options, work experiences and social and independent living skills development. As a part of the campus of NYIT, the students are able to take college beyond its special curriculum.

In our meeting last month, I was impressed with the VIP students keen understanding of how government works and the depth of their questions about my job and working in Congress. They have certainly benefitted from their various studies and trips outside the classroom. These experiences were a fine supplement to their excellent classroom curriculum.

As someone with a learning disability, I commend the students for not allowing their own disabilities to prevent them from attending college and moving into the workforce. They have demonstrated a determination and quest for knowledge which all students should aspire.

My best wishes to each of the graduates and their teachers, families and friends. I wish you great success now and in the future.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
MARCUS T. JAMEYSON ON HIS
APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES MILITARY
ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. BILLMORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Marcus T. Jameyson, of Wellington, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Mr. Speaker, Marc has accepted his offer of appointment and will be attending West Point this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2003. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers

a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Marcus Jameyson brings a great deal of leadership and dedication to the incoming West Point class of 2003. While attending Wellington High School, Marc has attained a grade point average of 3.28, which places him among the best in his class. His academic success has placed him on the Honor Roll and Merit Roll. Currently, Marc is taking Honor's Program courses and several AP courses.

Outside the classroom, Marc has distinguished himself as an outstanding student-athlete. Marc served as the Senior Captain of the Wellington High School Varsity Wrestling Team where, in both his Sophomore and Junior years, he placed fourth in the Ohio State Wrestling Tournament. Marc is also a member of the Wellington Varsity Baseball Team. I am also pleased to announce that Marc is being recruited for Intercollegiate Athletics at West Point.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Marcus T. Jameyson. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Marc will do very well during his career at West Point, and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

1999 STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL COUNCIL BILL ON SOCIAL SECURITY

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, on March 9, 1999 the 1999 Student Congressional Council in my district passed a bill that proposes to strengthen Social Security for years to come. I feel privileged to have sponsored this student group and I am especially impressed with the students' diligent work in creating this bill. I believe Congress can learn from their example by likewise working together to tackle this difficult issue.

I hereby submit the attached 1999 Student Congressional Council Bill on Social Security into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

BILL PASSED BY THE 1999 STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL COUNCIL ON MARCH 9, 1999. EVENT SPONSORED BY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE RALPH REGULA, 16TH DISTRICT-OHIO

BILL SUMMARY—COMMITTEE A

The basic concept of this bill is to individualize a portion of Social Security while keeping at least half of it completely governmental. The individualized portion will serve to stimulate the American economy, lead to a general higher-than-present public understanding of investment, and grant more independence to employees with the money that they have rightfully earned. Employees will be able, with education and limitations provided by the company, to invest in endeavors such as stocks, funds, IRAs, and the government, in order to increase their playback while lessening the load on Social Security. The bill also provides for a check-and-balance system between the companies and employees, and encourages cooperation among these and the government. The employees

have the ability to cause the companies to lose benefits if they are unsatisfied, and the companies have the ability to limit the investment of the employees. Under this bill, money is provided for the Social Security fund by the budget surplus, less stress on the money resulting from less money in the actual Security fund by the budget surplus, less stress on the money resulting from less money in the actual Security fund, and, in cases, the "matching-the-employees investments" of companies. The bill also provides for changes that may result from financial crisis, economic slumps, and/or corporate dilemmas, if not addressed by the bill (which many are), then as designated by new amendments, law, or judicial review.

Introduced by: Committee A, Central Catholic High School, Canton, Ohio, GlenOak High School, N. Canton, Ohio, Jackson High School, Massillon, Ohio, and Minerva High School, Minerva, Ohio.

I. Over the next twenty years (1999-2019), an amount of each year's gross national budget surplus equal to the higher of 50% of the surplus or forty-four billion three hundred million dollars will be allotted to the Social Security pool of finance. This investment will provide a foundation for and complement to the near-future implementation of Social Security funds. All mentioned money will be placed into an exclusive Social Security fund.

II. The money currently allotted for Social Security on each American citizen worker's income will be hereafter dubbed "The Security and Investment Plan."

A. The S&I Plan will divide current Social Security allotments into two parts: an unchanged Social Security fund and a Long-term Investment Allocation.

1. Social Security fund

a. The money under this account will be monitored and administered as it is in the current system as of the nineteenth of February 1999.

b. The money under this account must represent at least fifty percent of the S&I money.

2. Long-term Investment Allocations

a. The LTIA will be money that has the opportunity to increase at a rate that will produce more money in the long run than the regular Social Security fund. It will also run than the regular Social Security fund. It will also stimulate the American economy via individual investment in US interests.

b. This money will be monitored by each company and reported to the Congressional Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee annually for reference.

c. This money is in the control of the individual who has the option to surrender its control to the company to invest as it sees fit or to monitor it individually.

Individual Investment

i. The employing company will provide access to employees as to the status of the questioning employee's money. This access may be via computer network or server, the Internet, telephone, and/or other mediums. This access may be either inherent in the privileges of the employee or granted upon request and approval through a superior or other employee or employer.

ii. The employing company will provide employees with investment education.

iii. The employing company may place limits on employee investment such as the restriction of certain forms of investment, certain risk-levels of investments, and/or simultaneous sums of investment transactions.

iv. If an employee subscribed under the LTIA option has a reason agreed by the employing company and employee to be a situation or plausible cause for a situation of extreme need for the invested money, the em-

ployee may withdraw the LTIA funds before the designated time of retirement with a ten percent penalty to be paid to Social Security.

III. Employing companies will be given the option to establish a Security and Investments Plan.

A. The employing must demonstrate competent use of the plan. If less than twenty-five percent of the company's employees are not participating in the LTIA option of the S&I Plan, the company will no longer be considered eligible for the plan.

B. There will be incentives for companies to subscribe under the S&I Plan.

1. An overall four tenths of a percent tax cut for the first twelve months of the S&I incorporation and two tenths of a percent for each year of incorporation thereafter.

2. The company may choose to match each worker's choice of LTIA investment with an equal investment in the interest of Social Security. In this case, the tax cuts will be raised to five tenths of a percent and three tenths of a percent respectively.

3. Corporate brokerage firms who aid companies in organized investment of the LTIA funds will be granted a one-hundredth of a percent overall tax cut.

IV. this bill may be altered or amended as the law-making processes of the United States deem proper and necessary to the improvement of the plan without destabilizing the basic tenets of the bill.

V. If an individual's employing company is not a member of the S&I Plan, then that individual may, through an application process determined by an S&I company, apply to become involved in that company's S&I plan without becoming an employee of that company. However, that individual will have to pay a maximum of 10% in commission to the company.

MONTELLO STUDENTS SPACE SEED PROJECT ON SPACE SHUTTLE DISCOVERY

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, this past year, students from Montello, Wisconsin worked on a project that entailed an international experiment which was included on last fall's historic Discovery space shuttle flight.

The experiment involved vials of lettuce seeds from Wisconsin and chicory seeds from Italy being subjected to micro gravity, extreme heat and cold during the NASA flight. While in space, the project was tended by astronaut John Glenn. The seeds are being studied to determine the effects of space travel. Early results indicated that the space seeds did as well as the control seeds despite not being fertilized. This unexpected finding could have far-reaching implications for the environment.

The school-wide project included students of different ages and the central theme allowed all types of classes to be involved, such as English, history, and agriculture. The seed project, "Growing Montello Transglobally" is a joint effort with students from the Il Montello region of Italy. The students communicated over the Internet using an Italian translator program.

During a visit to Montello High in January, I had the opportunity to discuss the project with the students and was impressed by their interests and abilities. I toured classes where students had participated in computer portions of

the project, from sharing and tracking information with their sister school in Montello, Italy, to downloading and sending digital photographs. I was also impressed by a video documentary of the project and related activities that was made in conjunction with the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA).

The Wisconsin students were able to go to Florida to view the Discovery launch in October. They raised their own money for the trip through a variety of fund-raisers which included selling cookies and T-shirts and hosting a spaghetti dinner.

Seventh and eighth grade students in the Montello School system are co-authoring a children's picture book. The students developed their own ideas for the character, plot, settings and illustrations featuring children from Montello, Italy and Montello, Wisconsin. The book will feature NASA projects as seen from the children's perspective. They will be submitting the book to a professional publisher. A literacy quilt was created to highlight the success of the NASA Project.

Catherine Alexander, teacher, has been asked to have the students do a multimedia presentation on the seed project at the Naval Academy in Annapolis in September.

The time and effort the students of Montello, Wisconsin and Il Montello di Italy put into this project was phenomenal and their achievements and successes should be recognized. I believe these students deserve a full measure of praise for all they have accomplished.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
LONA R. PIEPER ON HER AP-
POINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES MILITARY
ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMORE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. GILLMORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a truly outstanding young lady from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Recently, I had the opportunity to nominate Lona R. Pieper for an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

I am pleased to announce that Lona has been offered an appointment and will be attending West Point with the incoming cadet class of 2003. Attending one of our nation's military academies is one of the most rewarding and demanding time periods these young men and women will ever undertake. Our military academies provide the training and experience needed to help turn these young adults into the finest officers in the world.

Mr. Speaker, without question, Lona Pieper belongs with the incoming West Point class of 2003. While attending Wellington High School, in Wellington Ohio, Lona achieved a grade point average of 2.92, which has earned her several Merit Awards and placed her on the Honor Roll each year. In addition, Lona has served as Vice President of the Senior Class and President of the Key Club. She has also been active in the French Club, Student Council, and Civil War Club.

Not only has Lona distinguished herself in the classroom, but she has performed wonderfully on the fields of competition. An outstanding student-athlete, Lona is the starting centerfielder on the Wellington High School Varsity Softball Team and is the team's Co-Captain. I am happy to announce that Lona is being recruited for Intercollegiate Athletics at West Point.

My Speaker, at this point, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Lona Pieper. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Lona will do very well at West Point, and I wish her much success in all of her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO LESTER AND LOIS
WHITING

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished couple in my community.

Lester and Lois Whiting lived, worked, and raised their family in the Tichnor community and resided there all their days. They were both descendants of pioneer families in south Arkansas County. They were the kind of people that always cared about their neighbors and community, were always ready to do their part for the common good.

The Whitings were the kind of people that only wanted a fair chance. They took care of their own business and achieved success in doing this.

They brought honor and distinction to their family and community with their quiet service and support. They are of the "Greatest Generation" that worked hard, played by the rules, and made this country what it is today.

If as some say, your children are the true measure of your success, then the Whitings are indeed successful.

I have been privileged to have lived among wonderful people like the Whitings all of my life.

The world is a better place because they lived. I have been blessed to have had such friends.

THE MULTIDISTRICT TRIAL
JURISDICTION ACT OF 1999

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Multidistrict Trial Jurisdiction Act of 1999 at the behest of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (or "AO").

The AO is concerned over a Supreme Court opinion, the so-called Lexecon case, pertaining to Section 1407 of Title 28 of the U.S. Code. This statute governs Federal multidistrict litigation.

Under Section 1407, a Multidistrict Litigation Panel—a select group of seven Federal judges picked by the Chief Justice—helps to consolidate lawsuits which share common questions of fact filed in more than one judicial district nationwide. Typically, these suits involve mass torts—a plane crash, for example—in which the plaintiffs are from many different states. All things considered, the panel attempts to identify the one district court nationwide which is best adept at adjudicating pretrial matters. The panel then remands individual cases back to the districts where they were originally filed for trial unless they have been previously terminated.

For approximately 30 years, however, the district court selected by the panel to hear pretrial matters (the "transferee court") often invoked Section 1404(a) of Title 28 to retain jurisdiction for trial over all of the suits. This is a general venue statute that allows a district court to transfer a civil action to any other district or division where it may have been brought; in effect, the court selected by the panel simply transferred all of the cases to itself. According to the AO, this process has worked well, since the transferee court was versed in the facts and law of the consolidated litigation. This is also the one court which could compel all parties to settle when appropriate.

The Lexecon decision alters the Section 1407 landscape. This was a 1998 defamation case brought by a consulting entity (Lexecon) against a law firm that had represented a plaintiff class in the Lincoln Savings and Loan litigation in Arizona. Lexecon had been joined as a defendant to the class action, which the Multidistrict Litigation Panel transferred to the District of Arizona. Before the pretrial proceedings were concluded, Lexecon reached a "resolution" with the plaintiffs, and the claims against the consulting entity were dismissed.

Lexecon then brought a defamation suit against the law firm in the Northern District for Illinois. The law firm moved under Section 1407 that the Multidistrict Litigation Panel empower the Arizona court which adjudicated the original S&L litigation to preside over the defamation suit. The panel agreed, and the Arizona transferee court subsequently invoked its jurisdiction pursuant to Section 1404 to preside over a trial that the law firm eventually won. Lexecon appealed, but the Ninth Circuit affirmed the lower court decision.

The Supreme Court reversed, however, holding that Section 1407 explicitly requires a transferee court to remand all cases for trial back to the respective jurisdictions from which they were originally referred. In his opinion, Justice Souter observed that "the floor of Congress" was the proper venue to determine whether the practice of self-assignment under these conditions should continue.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation responds to Justice Souter's admonition. My bill would simply amend Section 1407 by explicitly allowing a transferee court to retain jurisdiction over referred cases for trial, or refer them to other districts, as it sees fit. This change makes sense in light of past judicial practice under the Multidistrict Litigation statute. It obviously promotes judicial administrative efficiency. I therefore urge my colleagues to support the Multidistrict Trial Jurisdiction Act of 1999.

TRIBUTE TO THE U.S. MERCHANT
MARINES

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to U.S. Merchant Marines and extend my gratitude for their valiant service to our country during World War II. As my colleagues should be aware, May 22nd is National Maritime Day.

In years past, I have come before the House to explain in detail how the thousands of courageous men and women who served in the Merchant Marines transported supplies to our soldiers during war and in the face of grave danger. Undeniably, the actions taken and responsibilities fulfilled by these men and women who served in the Merchant Marines contributed to the outcome of World War II. As the Pittsburgh areas was one of the most heavily recruited regions of the country by the Merchant Marines, I have come to have an enormous appreciation for and ever growing amount of respect for the contributions that merchant mariners have made to our nation.

Indeed, their efforts should not be diminished in any way and should be equated with those of other armed service personnel. It is important to note that during World War II, Merchant Marines were subject to government control and their vessels were controlled by the government under the Authority of the War Shipping Administration. And just as with other branches of the military, Merchant Marines traveled under sealed orders and were subject to the Code of Military Justice. Like many Members of Congress, I felt it was completely unacceptable that Merchant Marines were discriminated against in terms of benefits and lent my strong support to H.R. 1126, the Merchant Marine Fairness Act. The bill, H.R. 1126, was ultimately enacted into law as part of H.R. 4110, the Veterans Programs Enhancement Act.

While I am pleased that the Merchant Marine Fairness Act has been signed into law, I was not pleased that the language of an important provision has been altered. Specifically, the Merchant Marine Fairness Act included directive language according to the recognition of Honorable Discharge to merchant mariners whose service included time between August 15, 1945 to the end of 1946. The language however, was changed to read "Certificate of Honorable Discharge" when the original bill was included in H.R. 4110, and was enacted as part of Public Law 105-368.

As it has been more than half a century since the end of World War II and almost 20 years since the struggle for equitable recognition of merchant mariners began, I am deeply concerned about the potential for the intent of the original language to be misconstrued and thus creating further delay in the delivery of earned benefits. I urge both Secretary of Defense Cohen and Secretary of Transportation Slater to expeditiously and consistently implement the new benefits provisions in accordance to the intent of the original bill's language. Approximately 2,500 mariners and their families are expecting and should receive no less.

I also want to recognize the efforts of one of my constituents, Mark Gleeson, for this per-

sonal involvement in, and steadfast commitment to obtaining appropriate recognition for the efforts of Merchant Marines during World War II. Mark cares very deeply about this matter and played a major role in creating greater awareness about the inequitable treatment of Merchant Marines within the halls of Congress.

In closing, I want to thank all of my colleagues who were supportive of the effort embodied in the Merchant Marines Fairness Act and encourage them to monitor its implementation. It is my hope that each and every Member of the House will take the time to recognize the efforts of our country's World War II Merchant Marines.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO PRESIDENT
LEE TENG-HUI OF TAIWAN

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to offer my congratulations to President Lee Teng-hui of the Republic of China on Taiwan, as Taiwan celebrates the third anniversary of his presence in office on May 20, 1999.

President Lee Teng-hui is the leader of the other China—The Republic of China on Taiwan, a country of 21 million hardworking Chinese citizens who subscribe to an American style of democracy—free elections, respect for human rights and a free enterprise system.

Mr. Speaker, under President Lee's leadership Taiwan is a world-class nation and its citizens enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world.

As Chinese mainland students continue to demonstrate against the United States, let's not forget our friends on Taiwan who have been our ally and partner throughout their history.

Mr. Speaker, once again I congratulate President Lee as he celebrates his third anniversary in office. He has done a wonderful job for his country and his people.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
ZEBULON G. WEDGE ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Zebulon G. Wedge, of Fostoria, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, Zeb has accepted his offer of appointment and will be attending the Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2003. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young

men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Without question, Zeb brings a great deal of leadership and dedication to the incoming Air Force class of 2003. During his time at Fostoria High School, Zeb has achieved a high level of academic excellence. Currently, he has attained a grade point average of 3.75, which places him thirteenth in his class of 158 students. Academically, he was an honor roll member in each year of high school.

In addition to his stellar performance in the classroom, Zeb has shown himself to be an excellent student-athlete. He has been a member of the Fostoria High School Varsity Wrestling Team and the Varsity Football Team. In addition, Zeb has been a member of the Spanish Club, Peer-Mediation, Youth-to-Youth, and served as the Vice President of the Freshman Student Council.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Zebulon G. Wedge. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Zeb will do very well during his career at the Air Force Academy, and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO FLETCHER AND
SYBIL SULLARDS

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and recognize Fletcher and Sybil Sullards on the occasion of the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary. Fletcher and Sybil are mother and father to Karen who they love dearly. The Sullards have actually parented many many children in their years as educators in the public schools in Arkansas. They are "public servants" in the true spirit of the words. I think of the Biblical meaning of servanthood when I look at the work of Fletcher and Sybil with the young people they served and the communities across this great state that they became involved.

Fletcher and Sybil came to the community I live in, Gillett, in the late 1950's. They were there only a few short years before moving on to serve larger schools and eventually made their home in Searcy, Arkansas. Their time in my community has been an example of the lasting impact for good that teachers make on children and also in setting standards of excellence for the schools they serve.

Of the many strengths of this unique couple I think first of their gift of laughter. As teachers, they dealt with a serious subject—educating children—but it was fun for them. You knew they loved what they were doing because they were and always will be happy people. In my opinion their greatest strength is in their dedication to children as individuals. This makes them truly outstanding. As educators, they knew their students, they liked their students, thus they could challenge, encourage and even reprimand their students. If it takes a village to raise a child, the Sullards are the ingredient every village needs as does every child.

I wish continued happiness for this wonderful couple. My state, my community and my family are better for Fletcher and Sybil Sullards.

INTRODUCTION OF FEDERALLY IMPACTED SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleague, Congressman J.D. HAYWORTH, in introducing the Federally Impacted School Improvement Act. This legislation is designed to provide matching grants to federally impacted schools to meet their urgent repair and construction needs.

The Impact Aid program was built on the premise of a shared responsibility between the federal, state and local governments. Since 1950, the federal government has recognized and accepted its responsibility to assist school districts and communities that are impacted by a federal presence such as a military base or Indian reservation. The federal government has made payments to school districts in the form of federal property, disability and basic support payments to help cover the cost of educating federally connected children. Across the country, 1,600 school districts and 1.5 million children depend on the Impact Aid program for a quality education.

Up until 1994, Congress has provided assistance to help these school districts build and repair their schools, particularly districts whose property tax circumstances make it almost impossible to pass school construction bonds. Since 1994, however, the Impact Aid school construction account has suffered. The funding provided in the section 8007 construction account has become woefully inadequate and is spread too thinly among the over two hundred qualifying schools. As a result, many of these school buildings are antiquated, overcrowded and most troubling, compromise the health and safety of their students.

I would like to draw my colleagues' attention to two particular instances in my state where Impact Aid section 8007 construction funding has fallen far short of meeting schools' most basic repair and construction needs. The Grand Forks school district in North Dakota has been plagued by severe ventilation and air quality problems for some time. The meager funds Grand Forks receives through section 8007 have not enabled the district to make even urgent repairs. One school has had to delay renovation projects because of insufficient funds, and ultimately, to borrow from their Basic Support Payments when renovation needs became too urgent to ignore. In order to improve the air quality so that children are not at risk, this one school would need \$800,000. However, the entire Grand Forks school district will receive only \$40,000 in section 8007 money this year.

Another Impact Aid school that has become a particular concern for me is Cannonball Elementary, located on the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota. As a result of inadequate Impact Aid construction funding over the years, Cannonball has long been neglected. Storage rooms have been converted

to makeshift classrooms and portions of the building that have been condemned continue to house students. Students and teachers are often forced to move from classroom to classroom to escape the stench of sewer back-up that permeates the building. I have walked the halls of this school and have found the conditions these students face on a day-to-day basis to be deplorable.

The legislation we are introducing today offers the best opportunity for Cannonball, and the Grand Forks School District to meet these urgent construction needs. Our legislation would create a separate Impact Aid construction account and authorize a federal appropriation of \$50 million for each of the next five fiscal years. The funding would be divided equally between Indian land/federal property and military schools and would create a reserve account for emergency repair needs. Under the legislation, an individual school district could receive a grant up to \$3 million any time during the five year authorization period. In order to make the limited federal funds go farther, the bill targets funding directly to those school districts located on Federal property or that serve a high concentration of federally-connected students. Additionally, the bill requires districts to provide matching funds on all but the small portion of funds reserved for emergencies.

Mr. Speaker, the federal government has a clear obligation to federally impacted schools, and only by stepping up its support can these schools continue to provide a quality education to thousands of children across the country. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues on a bipartisan basis to support Impact Aid schools. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, which would enable federally impacted schools across the country to meet their urgent construction and repair needs.

HONORING KEITH LUND AS A "STAR OF LIFE"

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I commend Keith Lund for being designated as a "Star of Life" by the American Ambulance Association.

Keith's selection as the "Star of Life" Award winner for Dade, Broward, Monroe and Palm Beach Counties of Florida is an appropriate honor for such a dedicated paramedic. Keith has worked with American Medical Response for eight years, rising from an emergency medical technician to a paramedic and supervising officer.

Anyone who has been in an emergency situation can easily recognize the vital importance of a calm, direct manner and the ability to work as a team member. Keith Lund embodies these to near-perfection. He handles his daily work in the high-stress environment as a critical care paramedic with eagerness, diligence, and pride.

I believe it is exceedingly difficult to separate professional life and personal life. This is an especially complicated task for a single parent. As a single father, Keith's dedication to his job is balanced with his dedication to his son. Keith's commitment to both should be honored and admired.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join with me in honoring the 150 emergency medical professionals being honored as "Stars of Life" during National EMS Week of 1999. I commend Keith Lund for his dedication to emergency care for the people of South Florida as a true "Star of Life".

U.S.-TAIWAN RELATIONS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of President Lee Teng-Hui and Vice-President Lien Chan of Taiwan as they prepare to celebrate their anniversary in office this May 20th. We are reminded once again that we have a strong partner and friend in the Far East—The Republic of China on Taiwan.

Throughout its history, the Republic of China on Taiwan has always continued to foster good relations with the United States. Many of Taiwan's leaders were either educated in the United States or the United Kingdom and they, just as much as we do, believe in democracy and a free enterprise system.

In the future, I hope we can continue to work together on issues that are mutual beneficial to both countries in the areas of democracy and governance, the rule of law, international trade and the environment. Taiwan has always supported the United States in many areas as it relates to security in and outside of the region. I hope we can continue to do this. It is time we show our appreciation of Taiwan by offering our help to them when they need us.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF GEOFFREY L. EARNHART ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a truly outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Recently, I had the opportunity to nominate Geoffrey L. Earnhart for an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

I am pleased to announce that Geoff has been offered an appointment and will be attending West Point with the incoming cadet class of 2003. Attending one of our nation's military academies is one of the most rewarding and demanding time periods these young men and women will ever undertake. Our military academics turn these young adults into the finest officers in the world.

Mr. Speaker, without question, Geoff belongs with the incoming West Point class of 2003. During his time at St. Francis DeSales High School, in Perryburg, Ohio, Geoff has achieved a remarkable grade point average of 4.427, which currently ranks him tenth in his class of 178 students. Geoff is a three-year member of the National Honor Society, and has received many awards for his academic excellence.

Outside the classroom, Geoff has been a four-year member of the St. Francis DeSales Marching Band. In his senior year, Geoff is the leader of the percussion section. Out service Geoff has demonstrated his dedication and commitment to excellence by obtaining his Eagle Scout ranking with the Boy Scouts of America. He has also been a Scout patrol leader and summer camp counselor.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Geoffrey Earnhart. Out service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Geoff will do very well at West Point, and I wish him much success in all of his future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the founding of The Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi, a congregation that is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

In 1849, thirteen secular Franciscans emigrated from Bavaria to establish a religious order to meet the education needs of German immigrants in Milwaukee. As such, The Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi are the first Third Order regular Franciscan congregation founded in the United States.

Over the years the work of the congregation has extended to virtually every walk of life and touched countless thousands through ministries of healing, teaching, reconciliation and liberation.

The congregation is involved in diverse ministries, which include: Making affordable housing units available through Canticle Court and Juniper Court, promoting undergraduate and graduate education at the renowned Cardinal Stritch University, making affordable rental units available to non-profit groups through the Marian Center, and offering community-based care for all ages through the innovative work at the St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care. In addition, ministries are maintained by the congregation throughout the U.S. and Taiwan through St. Colett's organizations in Wisconsin, Illinois and Massachusetts. And, a collaborative relationship is maintained with a Franciscan congregation in Cameroon, West Africa.

In all, nearly 350 Sisters and 75 Associates promote the mission of the congregation in areas of education, pastoral ministry in parishes, hospitals and nursing homes, music ministry, elder housing and day care service to those with developmental challenges, and volunteer work of all kinds.

In the last week of July, The Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi will bring its mission to television in a series of public education messages called, "We are Franciscans with a Future." On Sunday, May 30 the 150th celebration will culminate with the May Crowning and on Open House.

Then, in August, another celebration will take place with two other congregations who

share the same roots of foundation: The Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration from La Crosse, Wisconsin, and The Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist from Meriden, Connecticut. In addition, some 35 friends and parishioners from parish church in Ettenbeuren, Bavaria will join the celebration. They will also visit the motherhouses of all three religious congregations.

Mr. Speaker, it is with immense pride and gratitude that I commemorate The Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi on its jubilee anniversary and the wonderful contributions the congregation has made to the spiritual, academic, and temporal quality of life in communities close to home and around the world.

H.R. 1592, THE REGULATORY FAIRNESS AND OPENNESS ACT OF 1999

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, it is rare for both Houses of Congress to reach an agreement—fully bipartisan legislation. The Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) was enacted in this manner in 1996. This bill eliminated the famous Delaney Clause for residues in raw and processed foods—replacing it with a scientific, rational standard of "reasonable certainty of no harm." Food, agricultural and consumer interests, as well as the pesticide industry saw the passage of FQPA as an opportunity to assure that sound science is paramount in EPA's determinations on the use of chemicals on crops, in homes and for public health concerns. FQPA required the EPA to establish scientific, rational, sound and reasonable standards.

Mr. Speaker, sound science is what the authors intended and expected. This is what Congress wanted—sound science as the rule's foundation. Further, the new law provided an additional safety factor to protect infants and children, and new ways of assessing pesticide benefits and risks. This is something Congress fully supported and continues to support. Despite strong congressional support, implementing the law at the regulatory level has been a very difficult and unnecessarily complex process.

In fact, only a few months after the law was passed, the FQPA implementation process broke down. Members of Congress voiced their concern. The problems were so great and concerns from America's agricultural industry so substantial that Vice President Gore sent a memorandum to both the Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency on April 8, 1998. This memorandum laid out the White House's plan for putting FQPA's implementation on the right track.

The White House's plan for FQPA implementation contained four basic principles: sound science in protecting public health, regulatory transparency, reasonable transition for agriculture, and consultation with the public and other agencies. America's agricultural and urban pest control community supported the Vice President's approach.

Mr. Speaker, now, a year after the White House got directly involved in FQPA's imple-

mentation process, it remains derailed. It has become clear to me that Congress must again revisit this issue. It is my humble hope, we can revisit FQPA the way we left it, in a bipartisan spirit of cooperation.

Mr. Speaker, Congress wanted a law to eliminate the scientifically inadequate and outdated Delaney Clause. What Congress and the Nation got was much worse. In fact, the EPA has failed to provide scientifically sound guidance to the regulated community. The EPA's approach follows a path toward great economic harm for agricultural producers and pest outbreaks causing diseases concerns for urban and suburban communities it is an approach that is without a scientific foundation.

Farmers, the food industry, pest control interests, and many others are understandably concerned. Americans want and deserve a fair, workable implementation of the bipartisan law. Americans want and deserve rules that are based on real information and sound science. Americans want and deserve rules that follows the Vice President's stated goals. Americans want and deserve rules that fit FQPA's requirements.

In order to achieve these results, I along with Mr. TOWNS, Mr. CONDIT and Mr. BOYD have introduced "The Regulatory Fairness and Openness Act of 1999." This legislation maintains the strong safety standards established by FQPA. This bill simply establishes a scientific-based process for implementing the law which will be based on sound, peer reviewed science and open for public review. Further, it ensures that agricultural producers across the country, who are already facing tough times, will not be adversely impacted by loss of crop protection tools because the EPA failed to use good science in reviewing crop protection tools under the new standards of FQPA. It will also ensure the consumers' food supply and food quality will not be affected by incomplete and faulty data.

MY LEGISLATION ACCOMPLISHES THE FOLLOWING

The Regulatory Fairness and Openness Act of 1999 lays out the problems that the EPA has faced over the last few years in implementing the law. In many cases, the EPA simply does not know what to do because the scientific protocols for assessing certain crop protection products under the new law have not been developed. Further, it highlights the extreme negative consequences if the law is implemented improperly. For example, organophosphate insecticides are used on 70 percent of the acres treated in the United States and are used to control of vector insects that spread diseases. If the EPA continues on their current path, many of these products could be lost. Farmers will be left without replacement products and exposed to major losses due to pest outbreaks. Consequently, this will lead to either a shortage of quality produce or increase in import from countries where their farmers do not follow our stringent guidelines. It will also limit the ability of agencies to control vector insects, thus causing health risks for millions of Americans.

This legislation will require the EPA to perform a simple "transition analysis" on products before releasing any information about the safety of the product to the public or making final tolerance decisions. If the transition analysis determines that the Administrator is using assumptions when existing data makes the use of the assumption unnecessary or is using worst case estimates, anecdotal, unverified, or

scientifically implausible data, the Administrator cannot make final re-registration decisions on those products until sufficient time has been provided to allow the data to be developed, submitted and subsequently evaluated by the Agency.

The Administrator is required to issue rules to implement the FQPA properly within one year of enactment of this bill. Further, the Administrator is required to issue guidelines specifying the kinds of information that will be required to support the issuance or continuation of a tolerance or exemption from the requirements for a tolerance and shall revise such guidelines from time to time.

My bill provides protections, especially to small acreage farmers to ensure that they will not be left without crop protection tools. This legislation requires the Administrator to report to Congress priorities for registering new products that will replace products that are being removed from use and expedite the registration process. This will allow the farmers to continue to provide a safe, reliable food supply.

The USDA and EPA are required to assess the potential negative trade effects of implementing FQPA. The program will monitor the competitive strength of major United States agricultural commodity sections in the international marketplace. Such commodity sectors include fruits and vegetables, corn wheat, cotton rice, soybeans and nursery and forest products.

Mr. Speaker, FQPA must be implemented properly or grave results will occur. My bill gives this Congress a chance to do something good for the American people and the American Farmer. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

THE LIVING ORGAN DONATION
INCENTIVES ACT OF 1999

HON. KAREN L. THURMAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I never thought that I would come before my colleagues to discuss the importance of organ donation. Frankly, it was never an issue until seven years ago—organ donation was something other people did and organ transplants affected other people's families.

Well, I am here to tell you that this issue can affect anyone. You never know.

My husband, John, suffers from Polycystic Kidney Disease. John endured years of dialysis while awaiting a kidney transplant. In 1996, after waiting three years for a kidney, we finally received word that the local organ procurement organization (OPO) in Gainesville, Florida found a matching organ.

In a country where about 5,000 Americans die each year because there are not enough donated livers, kidneys and other organs to go around, John was clearly one of the lucky ones.

The sad fact is that the disparity between the supply and demand of organs available for transplant contributes to the deaths of eleven people daily. This is not just a problem, this is a health care crisis. Between 1988 and 1996, the number of people on the waiting list for an organ transplant increased by 312 percent and

the number of wait list deaths increased 261 percent. Additionally, in 1996, a new name was added to the transplant waiting list every nine minutes.

Viable, transplantable organs are provided from two primary sources: brain-dead victims of trauma (cadaveric donation) or living organ donors. The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) believes that we have only begun to tap the potential of living organ donation. Scientists and organ donation proponents alike firmly believe that increasing the frequency of living organ donation would not only increase the availability of organs but also lessen the transplantation rejection rate and reduce costs associated with dialysis.

However, living donors are faced with loss of income attributable to the time away from work needed for evaluation, surgery and recovery, making it difficult to pay rents, mortgages and other bills. There are also costs associated with their donation which are not reimbursable by Medicare: for example, travel, lodging, meals and child care. I firmly believe that Congress should take a more proactive role in promoting living organ donation by addressing these financial disincentives.

According to a study by researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 24 percent of family members indicated that financial issues kept them from being living organ donors. Four donors in their study alone lost their jobs when they revealed to their employers their plans to be living related donors and the need to have recovery time after surgery.

We need a concerted and well-established policy on living organ donation in this country. We should not only seek to provide the best quality-of-life for our constituents, but also do so in a fiscally responsible manner. By removing some of the financial disincentives associated with living organ donation, Congress can ensure better graft survival rates, increase the number of organs available for transplantation, and reduce the costs associated with dialysis and repeat transplantation.

That is why today I am introducing the Living Organ Donation Incentives Act of 1999. This legislation would amend the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) to allow living organ donation to qualify as a reason for taking time off work. This would include time spent for tests, evaluations, travel time and recuperation. The FMLA currently covers employers in the private sector with 50 or more employees and most public employees at the federal, state and local level. Under FMLA, employers are required to grant 12 weeks unpaid leave in any one calendar year to parents to care for their newborn or newly adopted child or a seriously ill child, spouse, or parent and to temporarily disabled workers. This provision would specify that living organ donation would qualify as a reason to take leave. In addition, by singling out living organ donation as a qualifier for FMLA, Congress can bring much needed attention to the benefits of this type of donation.

In addition, this legislation would allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to develop a grant program to aid individuals with the high costs associated with living organ donation. Medicare currently pays for the costs associated with a number of solid organ transplants. However, Medicare does not cover the costs of travel, lodging, child care, etc. These costs can be an extremely

difficult burden for many potential donors. By developing a grant program for eligible beneficiaries, Congress could help increase the number of living organ donations.

This legislation would also increase the payment amount (referred to as the 'composite rate') by 2.9 percent for renal dialysis services under Medicare. The current rate has remained essentially unchanged since 1983, and the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission recently expressed concern that quality of dialysis services may decline if the rate is not increased. In recent years, costs have risen in relation to the composite rate. In fact, the independent and nonpartisan Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) recently expressed concern that without an increase in the payment the quality of dialysis services may decline.

This legislation is supported by the National Kidney Foundation, American Society of Transplantation, National Renal Administrators Association, American Society of Transplant Surgeons, American Society of Nephrology, American Nephrology Nurses Association, North American Transplant Coordinators Organization, Patient Access To Transplantation Coalition, Renal Physicians Associations.

I would also like to thank and express my appreciation for the ideas and suggestions I received from these organizations. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the contributions of Troy Zimmerman and Dolph Chianchiano with the National Kidney Foundation, Gwen Gampel with the National Renal Administrators Association, and Kathy Lanza Turrissi, Program Director of the Medical University of South Carolina. Together, we have crafted legislation that will tear down the disincentives associated with living organ donation.

Mr. Speaker, in the world of organ donation, supply simply does not meet demand. Together, we need to develop strategies for greater organ donation. I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this important and urgent legislation.

RECOGNIZING FLAT STANLEY

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Flat Stanley who showed up today in my office here in Washington, D.C. Mr. Stanley was introduced to me by Jessika Fretwell, a Student from Laurel Elementary School in Ft. Collins, Colorado.

Together, Mr. Stanley and Miss Fretwell are trying to see how far and wide Flat Stanley can travel in a short period of time. This experiment, I understand, is being conducted as part of a classroom activity in Miss Cooper's Class.

I hereby certify, Mr. Speaker, that Flat Stanley arrived in Washington, D.C. today. Should any of our colleagues wish to meet him, they may inquire about his status at my office. There, Mr. Stanley will be resting for most of Wednesday.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERALLY IMPACTED SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the Federally Impacted School Improvement Act with my good friend from North Dakota, Congressman Earl Pomeroy. This bipartisan legislation seeks to address the urgent school construction needs on federal lands, an issue I have championed since I was first elected to Congress.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the federal government has jurisdiction over schools in three cases—Indian reservations and military installations, which are funded through the Impact Aid program, and the federal enclave of the District of Columbia. Unfortunately, the federal government has failed to live up to its obligations to federally impacted schools, especially in Indian country.

Nearly one in four of my constituents are Native American and approximately 50 percent of the land mass in my district is tribal land. On several occasions, I have had the opportunity to visit my Native American constituents. Virtually everywhere I go, I find one common problem on the reservations: the schools are antiquated, overcrowded, and in dire need of repair or reconstruction.

The Federally Impacted School Improvement Act begins to address this desperate situation by authorizing \$50 million to be spent on repair, renovation, and construction in our federally impacted school districts. As you may know, Impact Aid school construction is currently funded through Section 8007. This program received a paltry \$7 million in fiscal year 1999, which could have built the equivalent of one school. There is certainly a need for more than one new school in my district alone. In fact, I testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education in 1998 about the importance of school construction funding for federally impacted schools and included documentation of nearly \$180 million in needed school construction funding in just five of my 23 federally impacted school districts. This problem is not isolated to my district. Almost every federally impacted school district faces similar problems.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation represents a start in improving the schools on military and Indian lands. But this is only a beginning. We need to show our commitment to our military and Native Americans, who have long been neglected by the federal government. We must live up to our obligations to educate children on federal land. I urge my colleagues to support the Federal Impacted School Improvement Act.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF BOB AND LOUISE VOELZKE ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very special couple from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, May 15, 1999, in the presence of many of their family members, neighbors, and friends, Bob and Louise Voelzke celebrate a milestone day in their lives. On May 15, at the Ballville Community Hall in Fremont, Ohio, Bob and Louise celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, the celebration of the sanctity of marriage is one of our most cherished and time-honored traditions. Throughout the ages, husbands and wives have reaffirmed their trust, faith, and, most importantly, love for each other on their wedding anniversaries. On this most treasured day, we, as their friends, neighbors, coworkers, and family members, have the opportunity to recognize them for their commitment, their sharing, and their love for each other.

The day on which two people are united in marriage is much more than simply a ceremony, with wedding vows and the exchanging of rings. It is the true union of two individuals who then become one, inseparable entity. It is the common bond and an unwavering dedication to each other that will help the marriage through good times and bad.

Mr. Speaker, for the past fifty years, Bob and Louise Voelzke have shown how love, compassion, and conviction are the cornerstones of their long and lasting marriage. Their strong commitment to each other is an example for each of us to follow.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, for myself and the members of the 106th Congress, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Bob and Louise Voelzke on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. May the love and happiness they have found stay with them far into the future. Again, best wishes and congratulations on fifty wonderful years together.

REGARDING ROLLCALL VOTES ON H.R. 1664

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, we were elected to the "people's House," without question the most deliberative body in the world. As such, when legislation comes to the floor of this House, Members should have every opportunity to amend and perfect it before we pass it on to the Senate. It is our duty. It is our obligation.

Last Thursday, the Republican Leadership in the House presented H.R. 1664, the Kosovo and Southwest Asia Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1999. The measure provided \$12.9 billion for emergency spending to support the ongoing military oper-

ations in Kosovo. The request was \$6.9 billion above the President's request which by all accounts was more than adequate to fund our mission overseas. H.R. 1664 was presented to this body under a restrictive rule that limited the Minority's opportunities to perfect the bill. For this reason I opposed the rule.

While the rule was passed, it did allow some Democratic amendments. One of those amendments was the Obey amendment which restored \$1.5 billion to the budget surplus that the Committee bill removed to fund the construction of military projects overseas. The Obey amendment made increases in military pay and effectively dealt with the issue of retirement by not making it subject to future legislation. The Obey measure also provided funds for disaster assistance for the victims of Hurricane Mitch.

The Obey amendment was defeated along with other amendments that sought to restore funds to the budget surplus. Even though the Obey amendment failed, I voted for H.R. 1664 during final passage. When our troops, our sons and daughters, are engaged in military conflict overseas, we must lay aside our partisan differences and give them the financial and moral support they need. While the Majority failed to do this and used H.R. 1664 to fund pork projects abroad, I felt compelled to rise above Party and vote for my country by casting my vote in support of H.R. 1664. I voted for our troops—our sons and daughters who willingly lay their lives on the line for our national security and for freedom.

ENSURE ACCOUNTABILITY WITH THE FEDERAL SHARE OF THE TOBACCO SETTLEMENT

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my extreme disappointment with the inclusion of a particular legislative provision within the conference report for the FY 1999 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Bill.

This legislative rider, attached to the appropriations legislation in the other body and approved by the conference committee, prohibits the federal government from recovering any of the federal share of the master settlement reached between the states and the tobacco industry. When the states brought their individual cases against the tobacco industry, they did so to recover certain health care costs, including Medicaid costs. Since the federal government pays a portion of these costs, I believe the federal government has a right to determine which activities it should fund with its share of the settlement. While I believe the federal government should return the federal share to the states, it should only be done if the federal share is spent on tobacco control and other programs which seek to improve the public health.

This rider does nothing to ensure that any money from the settlement is spent on important anti-smoking programs and public health programs. This is wrong. In my view, returning the federal share to the states without proper accountability abdicates our duty to ensure this federal money is invested and spent wisely. Throughout the country, governors, state

legislatures and citizens are debating how their settlements should be spent. While a great deal of these proposals may be admirable, some are not targeted to improving health care and control tobacco, as intended by the settlement.

According to the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, approximately 5,000 children in Rhode Island each year become new daily smokers and 35% of high school students smoke. Nearly one million packs of cigarettes are sold to minors in Rhode Island each year. If current trends continue, it is estimated that 23,000 of Rhode Island's children will later die from smoking. On behalf of the children in my state and the countless children and adults throughout this nation who are negatively impacted by smoking, I urge the fifty governors, state legislators and citizens to work together to ensure this federal money is invested wisely in tobacco control and public health.

THE FORMATION OF THE ALLIANCE OF AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, as the co-chairs of the Congressional Automobile Caucus, we rise to recognize the newly formed Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers on the occasion of the inaugural meeting of its Board of Directors.

In Washington today, we hear a lot about reinvention. The Alliance is a perfect example of a major industry "reinventing" itself to reflect new world realities. The American auto industry has undergone a remarkable transformation in the past few years with the mergers and alliances between U.S. manufacturers and manufacturers around the globe. While its predecessor organization was composed of solely U.S. companies, the new Alliance embodies the global market place, with 10 member companies from around the globe.

The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, an international coalition of car and light truck manufacturers, was formed this past January. The member companies include BMW, DaimlerChrysler, Fiat, Ford, General Motors, Mazda Nissan, Toyota, Volkswagon, and Volvo. The new trade association created by this powerful Alliance of automobile manufacturers promises to be an organization that is nimble enough to respond to rapidly changing issues that reach across the ever-shrinking global marketplace.

Members of the Alliance have gone on the public record as committed to developing constructive approaches. Moreover, the Alliance pledges to work with government and other stakeholders to find sensible and effective solutions to shared concerns. We have already witnessed this constructive approach to issues. On May 1, President Clinton unveiled EPA's proposed "Tier 2" standards to reduce vehicle emissions and sulfur content in fuel. Prior to this announcement, the Alliance had called for reduction in nitrogen oxide emissions and sulfur-free fuel to provide cleaner cars and cleaner air. EPA's proposal and the

Alliance are similar. The Alliance generally supports the clean air targets that EPA has proposed, including cars and trucks meeting the same average standards for nitrogen oxides.

The Alliance companies operate 255 manufacturing facilities in 33 states. They produce more than 90% of all new vehicles sold each year in the United States.

The Alliance stands ready to provide its views and comments on automotive concerns to Members of Congress as we debate issues of importance to the industry and consumers. It has a dedicated staff of professionals, led by Josephine Cooper, who have a long record of experience and knowledge of automobile issues.

A key component to developing good public policy is having an open dialogue with groups impacted by our decisions. We are confident that the Alliance and its member companies will play a vital role in developing creative and constructive solutions to the issues before the Congress.

IN HONOR OF THE GENESIS CLUB AND THE VISIT OF MRS. ROSALYNN CARTER

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to The Genesis Club of Worcester, Massachusetts and note the visit on May 19, 1999, of former First Lady Rosalynn Carter to the club.

The Genesis Club was founded in 1988 by a small group of local business leaders and professionals whose family members were struggling with mental illness. Since its founding, The Genesis Club has developed a comprehensive model of support and rehabilitation in which participants are not patients or clients, but members who participate fully in management, employment, and therapeutic services and programs. The Genesis Club works to encourage and empower individuals with mental illness to function and maintain independence in their living, working, and social environments. Since its founding ten years ago, The Genesis Club has helped more than 800 individuals cope with mental illness through its supportive atmosphere, which fosters vocational and social development, embraces individuals, and leads to personally satisfying and socially productive lives. I and my fellow residents of Worcester and the Third Congressional District of Massachusetts are understandably proud of The Genesis Club, their programs, and their accomplishments.

On May 19, 1999, The Genesis Club will warmly welcome former First Lady Rosalynn Carter, who, throughout her public service career, has been a driving force in the field of mental health. It was while Mrs. Carter was serving as active honorary chair of the President's Commission on Mental Health during the Carter Administration that the Mental Health System Act of 1980 was passed. In addition, in 1982, President and Mrs. Carter founded the Carter Institute, which strives to relieve suffering in our country and around the world by focusing on the cause and consequences of war, hunger, poverty, and

human rights abuses. I thank Mrs. Carter for the support and encouragement her visit will bring to The Genesis Club.

Therefore, I rise today both in tribute of The Genesis Club of Worcester, Massachusetts, and their efforts on behalf of those suffering from mental illness, and former First Lady Rosalynn Carter, who, by her visit, honors both my district and The Genesis Club.

MEDICARE REHABILITATION BENEFIT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleagues FRANK PALLONE, JIM MCCRERY, and RICHARD BURR, to introduce the Medicare Rehabilitation Benefit Improvement Act of 1999. This legislation is an urgently needed, common sense approach that will help repair a damaging provision passed by Congress nearly two years ago.

In recent years, cost pressures on the Medicare program have resulted in Congress imposing \$115 billion in cuts on the Medicare program through the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. As a result, we have seen sharp reductions in payments for the elderly's care. Some of these cuts can be absorbed by our health care system. Others, however, cannot, and are having a devastating impact on the quality of patient care being delivered to the most frail, sickest Medicare beneficiaries. The Congressional Budget Office has just reported that actual BBA cuts to Medicare will exceed by billions of dollars what Congress intended for the five years from 1998 through 2002. It is time to look at what Congress actually did, and where appropriate, make necessary changes.

BBA imposed annual \$1,500 caps on Part B outpatient rehabilitative services—one for physical therapy and speech-language pathology, and one for occupational therapy—provided outside the hospital setting. In practice, these limits ignore a patient's clinical requirements and restrict care for those who suffer from the most debilitating diseases, such as stroke, hip fracture, or ALS, and those who incur multiple injuries in a given year. And because the caps are not adjusted for cost variations across the nation, they disproportionately harm beneficiaries in high cost areas. Finally, because the new consolidated billing rules imposed by BBA require all filing for patients in skilled nursing facilities to be done by the facility itself, those facilities that provide adequate therapy services to their sickest patients feel the brunt of the payment limits.

When BBA was being written and debated, Congress held no hearings to examine what the impact of these arbitrary limits might be on patient care. The caps were a crude budget cutting measure designed to deliver savings—\$1.7 billion over five years. And in that regard, they were successful. The therapy caps were implemented on January 1, 1999. Since that time, I have heard that in my district, some Medicare beneficiaries in SNFs have already exceeded their limit. Some estimates indicate that one of every six beneficiaries who receive rehabilitative care outside

a hospital setting will need in excess of \$1,500 in services in a given year. The Health Care Financing Administration's own words in the regulation implementing the cap, from the Federal Register of November 2, 1998, illustrate the problem:

The \$1,500 limits will reduce the amount of therapy services paid for by Medicare. The patients most affected are likely to be those with diagnoses such as stroke, certain fractures, and amputation, where the number of therapy visits needed by a patient may exceed those that can be reimbursed by Medicare under the statutory limits. Services not paid for by Medicare, however may be paid for by other payers.

But what about Medicare enrollees who cannot afford high-priced supplemental insurance policies to cover the balances? Clearly, some relief is necessary so that all patients with serious conditions have access to adequate therapy services and the opportunity to resume normal activities of daily living.

In the last Congress, I introduced bipartisan legislation that would eliminate the arbitrary therapy cap and instead pay for outpatient rehabilitative services based on the patient's diagnosis. But Congress adjourned without holding hearings on that bill. This year, we are beginning to witness the consequences of our failure to act. So today, I am pleased to join my colleagues in sponsoring the "Medicare Rehabilitation Benefit Improvement Act," which is specifically designed to provide relief to beneficiaries who need greater levels of care. This bill creates limited exceptions to the \$1,500 cap so that those patients who need additional care the most will be able to continue to receive it. The bill also requires the Secretary of HHS to study the impact of this legislation on beneficiaries and to develop alternatives to the \$1,500 limits. This will help Congress determine if the caps for rehabilitative therapy services should continue.

This legislation is a common sense approach that will permit Medicare patients who need intensive therapy services to secure the appropriate level of care for their conditions. It has the strong endorsement of several organizations, including the American Health Care Association, the American Occupational Therapy Association, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, the National Association of Rehabilitation Agencies, and the Private Practice Section of the American Physical Therapy Association. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this essential measure to restore adequate therapy outpatient rehabilitative coverage to those beneficiaries most in need.

REGARDING BLACK ORIGINAL INDIVIDUALS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in a time where our young African-American males are depicted in the news as at-risk youth, criminals, drug dealers, and high school dropouts, we forget that there are positive young men among them who are changing their environment for the better. As a matter-of-fact, many young African-American males are succeeding in our society and are

making their communities both proud and strong.

Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous pride that I rise to pay tribute to eight young African-American gentlemen in my district who are using their energy, talent, and intelligence to serve others in their community. I truly believe that their accomplishments have cut through the dark and gloomy media depictions of African-American males.

Mr. John Kemp, Mr. Brandon Collier, Mr. Clayton Redmon, Mr. William Hudson, Mr. B.J. Armstrong, Mr. Rodrick Coaxum, Mr. Zandrian Harp, and Mr. Andre Griffin are all members of "Black Original Individuals." Better known as BOI, they formed this organization from a part of an entertainment group already established called Dream Entertainment.

BOI has been designed by these young men to take the social and financial benefits of hosting parties and turn them into a business practice that serves them and their community in a positive manner. Besides teaching them successful business skills, their operation is a great example of teamwork, strategic planning, communications skills, and volunteerism. I am confident that these young men will continue to apply these lessons throughout their lives.

Mr. Speaker, what is particularly notable of their work is that they have been using the profits to fund future enterprises and use the rest of the money to set up a scholarship fund that will be open on a community-wide basis for minorities. This is a great example of humble and positive individuals giving back to others.

Mr. Speaker, not too long ago some high school students in my area had an experience contrary to the gentlemen I cite today. During the fall, hundreds of students disrupted parts of the Dallas area with dangerous underage drinking, noise violations, littering and basic disrespect for our community.

I would like people to focus on these gentlemen as a contrast to the youth that I just mentioned. Instead of destructive parties, BOI has controlled and safe settings where fun is the focus. Instead of violating the law, BOI works within the parameters of rules. Instead of littering our community with beer cans and spreading bottles across lawns, BOI is spreading a message of positive change and service throughout our community.

Mr. Speaker, some of these young men, Mr. Collier and Mr. Redmon in particular, will be heading to college. As they prepare to write what I am sure will be another successful chapter in their lives, they are also passing down their business lessons to the youngest of their members. I commend Mr. Collier and Mr. Redmon for teaching the young for the benefit and sustenance of the group as a whole. Quite often we hear about the successful, both young and old, forgetting to pass their lessons and experiences to those who will come after them. I am pleased that this is not the case with the members of BOI.

On behalf of the constituents of the 30th congressional district, I thank BOI for their service to our community and wish them continued success.

REPORT FROM PENNSYLVANIA HONORING SCHNECKSVILLE COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY

HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 1999

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to deliver my Report from Pennsylvania. Today, I would like to share with my colleagues and the American people the remarkable efforts of individuals in Schnecksville, Pennsylvania.

All across the Lehigh Valley, my wife, Kris, and I meet so many wonderful people. We learn of and hear about amazing individuals who strive day and night to make our communities better places to live.

I like to call these individuals Lehigh Valley Heroes. Lehigh Valley Heroes make a difference by helping their friends and neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, everyone involved with the Schnecksville Community Fire Company are Lehigh Valley Heroes.

This weekend, the Schnecksville Fire Company will celebrate 75 years of service to their community. For this reason, I would like to commend and applaud their efforts—both past and present—in making our community a better place.

Mr. Speaker, this concludes my Report from Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, I insert the following for printing in the RECORD:

THE 1998 SCHNECKSVILLE FIRE TEAM

Richard Ruch, Keith Fenstermacher, Asst. Engineer; Steve Fetherolf, Lieut.; Todd Kern, Asst. Chief; Keith Zehner, Asst. Chief; Jason Zellner, Ronald Paulus, Scott Gicking, Rev. Michael Bodnyk, Chaplain; Ronald Dunstan, Engineer; Tim Henry, Marvin Belles, Nelson Fogle, Lieut.; Tom Hourt, Captain; Ronald Stahley, Chief; Keith Stahley, Charles Weidaw, Daniel Wehr, Jody Blose, Brad Petrahoy.

FIRE POLICE

Nelson Fogle, Karl Haas, Fire Police Captain; Roy Kern, Fire Police Lieut.; Glenn Stahley, Ronald Paulus, Robert Bold, Dennis Oels

NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP RESCUE SQUAD

Ron Rutt, Rescue Lieut.; Tom Hourt, Rescue Lieut.; Ronald Stahley, Rescue Capt.; Steve Fetherolf, Scott Gicking, Ronald Paulus, Richard Ruch, Marvin Belles, Keith Fenstermacher, Charles Weidaw, Charles Eckhart, Todd Kern, Nelson Fogle, Keith Zehner, Daniel Wehr, Robert Rudelitch, Gary Cederberg, Jamie Ebert, Mark Kaintz, Kenny Reimert, Jim Steward, Gary Frederick.

75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

George Wessner, Harold Ruch, Rose Bobin, Eleanor Kressley, Carol Wessner, Faye Ruch, John Schaeffer, Delores Wehr, Jean Horwith, Betty Moll, Ron Nederostek, Bernie Molchany, Eva Feinour, Sandy Bradley, Marie Bittner, Betty Holler, Nancy Kern, Roy Kern, Wayne Moll, Nelson Fogle, Terry Dunbar, Ellsworth Meckel, Dennis Bittner, Richard Solt, Kathy Ruch, Richard Ruch, Diane Fries, Eleanor Stettler, June Handwerk.

OFFICERS 1924 TO 1998

PRESIDENTS' NAMES AND YEARS SERVED

J. Eric Linde, 1924-1941.

Victor Haas, 1942-1945.

David Klotz, 1946.

Raymond Baer, 1947-1948, 1950-1951.

Warren Rohrback, 1949.

Mosby Heinly, 1952.
 Ellsworth Meckel, 1953, 1967–1972, 1982.
 Robert Heinly, 1954.
 Carl Correll, 1955.
 Wayne Moyer, 1956–1957.
 Donald Hersh, 1958.
 Paul Schneck, 1959.
 John J. Meckel, 1960.
 Russel Grim, 1961–66.
 Gordon Werley, 1973–75.
 Ted Rothrock, 1976–1978, 1980–1981, 1983–1986, 1997–1999.
 John Schaeffer, 1979, 1988–1989.
 Karl Haas, 1987.
 Robert Gibiser, 1990–1994.
 John Ruch, 1995–1996.

VICE PRESIDENTS' NAMES AND YEARS SERVED

Stanley Peters, 1924.
 William Long, 1924.
 M.D. Wehr, 1924–1926.
 Asa M. Stopp, 1924–1925.
 Wilson Shankweiler, 1924.
 William Heiney, 1925–1932, 1951.
 Guy Kohler, 1925–1944.
 Wilson Schuler, 1925, 1927–1945.
 Steward Peters, 1926.
 Preston Holben, 1926.
 William Peters, 1927–1941.
 Homer Frey, 1927–1928.
 John Henninger, 1928–1932.
 Howard Heinly, 1929–1932.
 Walter E. Bittner, 1933–1942.
 Malcolm Hummel, 1942.
 Donald Best, 1942–1943.
 Richard Reitz, 1942.
 Ellsworth Meckel, 1943, 1954, 1956, 1958, 1975–1981.
 Theodore Rau, 1943.
 David Klotz, 1944–1948.
 Raymond Baer, 1944–1945, 1948–1949.
 Wm. J.D. Heintzelman, 1945.
 Fred Dotterer, 1945.
 Franklyn Bittner, 1945.
 Walter Best, 1946–1950.
 Victor Haas, 1946.
 Wilmer Stahley, 1946.
 Willis Smoyer, 1947–1950.
 Warren Rohrbach, 1948, 1957.
 Jacob Weber, 1950.
 Henry Musselman, 1951–1953.
 Mosby Heinly, 1951–1953.
 John J. Meckel, 1952–1963.
 Raymond Krause, 1952.
 Roy Smoyer, 1954.
 Leroy Krause, 1955–56, 1961.
 Mike Kondravy, 1955.
 William Jones, 1957–1958.
 John Liscka, Jr., 1959.
 Earl Warmkessel, 1959.
 William Schock, 1960.
 Wayne Moyer, 1960–1962.
 Stewart Helfrich, 1960.
 Donald Bittner, 1962.
 Donald Kern, 1963, 1965.
 Warren Follweiler, 1963, 1973–1974.
 Russell Rader, 1964.

Willard Holben, 1964–1966.
 Thomas Dennis, 1966, 1971.
 Harold Schoch, 1967–1969.
 Zolton Papp, 1967–1968.
 Stanley Traub, 1967.
 David Schneck, 1969–1970, 1973.
 Frank Kovacs, 1970.
 David Samuels, 1971–1972.
 Gordon Werley, 1972.
 Robert Haberern, 1973.
 Warren Follweiler, 1973–1975.
 David Schneck, 1973.
 Harold Ruch, 1974.
 Zolton Papp, 1976, 1978.
 Harold Schoch, 1977.
 Donald Briam, 1979.
 Dean Lobach, 1980–1981.
 Danny Yankovich, 1982.
 Karl Haas, 1982–1986, 1988, 1997–1999.
 Jody Blose, 1983–1986, 1989, 1992.
 Richard Ruch, 1987–1988.
 Gordon Steigerwalt, 1987.
 Edward Frack, 1989–1992.
 Keith Zehner, 1990–1991.
 Wilson Klotzman, 1993, 1996.
 Gary Kressley, 1993.
 Jack Ruch, 1994.
 Betty Moran, 1994–1995.
 Eva Feinour, 1995.
 Emory Minnich, 1996.
 Paul Schwarz, 1997–1998.
 Todd Kern, 1999.

FIRE CHIEFS' NAMES AND YEARS SERVED

Preston Holben, 1924–1928.
 Guy Kohler, 1929–1943.
 Mosby Heinly, 1944–1954.
 Nelson Tyson, 1955–1977.
 David Samuels, 1978–1986.
 Milt Brown, 1987–1988.
 Ron Stahley, 1988–1999.

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEFS' NAMES AND YEARS SERVED

Ralph Rabert, 1924–1944.
 Guy Kohler, 1924–1928, 1944.
 John Henninger, 1928–1932.
 Fred Heinly, 1929–1932.
 Wilson Schuler, 1933–1941.
 Ellsworth Meckel, 1942–1943, 1945.
 Raymond Baer, 1945–1946, 1949, 1951–1961.
 Raymond Krause, 1946–1948, 1950–1956, 1958.
 Frank Kovacs, 1947.
 Roy Smoyer, 1948–1949.
 Philip Anthony, 1950.
 Nelson Tyson, 1954.
 Wayne Moyer, 1957, 1961–1966.
 Paul Schneck, 1959–1962.
 Russell Rader, 1963.
 Warren Follweiler, 1964–1969.
 Floyd Fenstermaker, 1967–1970.
 David Schneck, 1970–1972.
 Stanley Bruder, 1971–1973.
 David Samuels, 1973–1974.
 Robert Newhard, 1974.
 Russ Fetherolf, 1975–1976.
 Keith Stahley, 1977–1981.
 Ron Stahley, 1978–1985, 1987.

Roger Yorgey, 1982–1983.
 Richard Ruch, 1984, 1986.
 Milt Brown, 1985–1986.
 Tom Hourt, 1987–1988.
 Wilson Klotzman, 1988–1993.
 Keith Zehner, 1988–1991, 1993–1999.
 Josh Bingham, 1992.
 Todd Kern, 1994–1999.

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES' NAMES AND YEARS SERVED

John J. Meckel, 1924–1926.
 Homer Frey, 1927–1938.
 Walter Best, 1939–1943.
 Donald Best, 1944–1945.
 Raymond Baer, 1946–1953.
 Jacob Weber, 1947–1948.
 Ellsworth Meckel, 1949–1952.
 Wayne Moyer, 1954–1955.
 Carl Carroll, 1956.
 Donald Bittner, 1957–1959, 1963.
 Harold Schoch, 1960–1962, 1967–1970.
 Warren Follweiler, 1964.
 Carl Madtes, 1965–1966.
 John Schaeffer, 1971–1974.
 Frederic Xander, 3 Mos. 1973.
 Lee Merkel, 1975–1979.
 Mervin Peters, 1980.
 John Ruch, 1981.
 Keith Stahley, 1982–19987.
 John Strauss, 1988.
 Mike Bennett, 1990–1991.
 Dennis Oels, 1992–1996.
 Bea Kuntz, 1997–1999.

TREASURERS' NAMES AND YEARS SERVED

Alphenus Guldner, 1924–1948.
 David Klotz, 1949–1958, 1967–1974.
 Ellsworth Meckel, 1959–1966.
 Harold Ruch, 1975–1979, 1987–1989.
 Randy Stahley, 1980–1985.
 Kathy Lindenmoyer, 1990–1996.
 Shirley Bachert, 1997–1999.

RECORDING SECRETARIES' NAMES AND YEARS SERVED

Frank W. Bechtel, 1924–1927.
 Edwin K. Greenawald, 1928–1930.
 Roy Schneck, 1931–1932.
 William Heinly, 1933–1946.
 Robert Heinly, 1947–1960.
 Russel Grim, 1949–1960.
 Erwin Warmkessel, 1961–1963.
 Russell Rader, 1964.
 Warren Follweiler, 1965–1967.
 James Kohler, 1968–1975.
 Paul Schwarz, 1976–1992.
 Delores Wehr, 1993–1996.
 Elsie Schwarz, 1997–1999.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARIES' NAMES AND YEARS SERVED

Joseph Horwith, 1975–1985.
 Robert Gibiser, 1986–1989.
 Ray Saltzman, 1990–1991.
 Roy Kern, 1992–1997.
 Faye Solt, 1999.